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FLASH BACK

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Cane Hill College 1
Two Family Histories:
Part I - The Greggs 6
Phelan's Album 23
Population Patterns 27
Newtons - Early Settlers . . . 28
Queries 36
Commonplace Beauty 38
Flood & Fire In Winslow . . 42
Early Radio In Springdale . . 45

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Washington County Historical Society

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FLASH BACK

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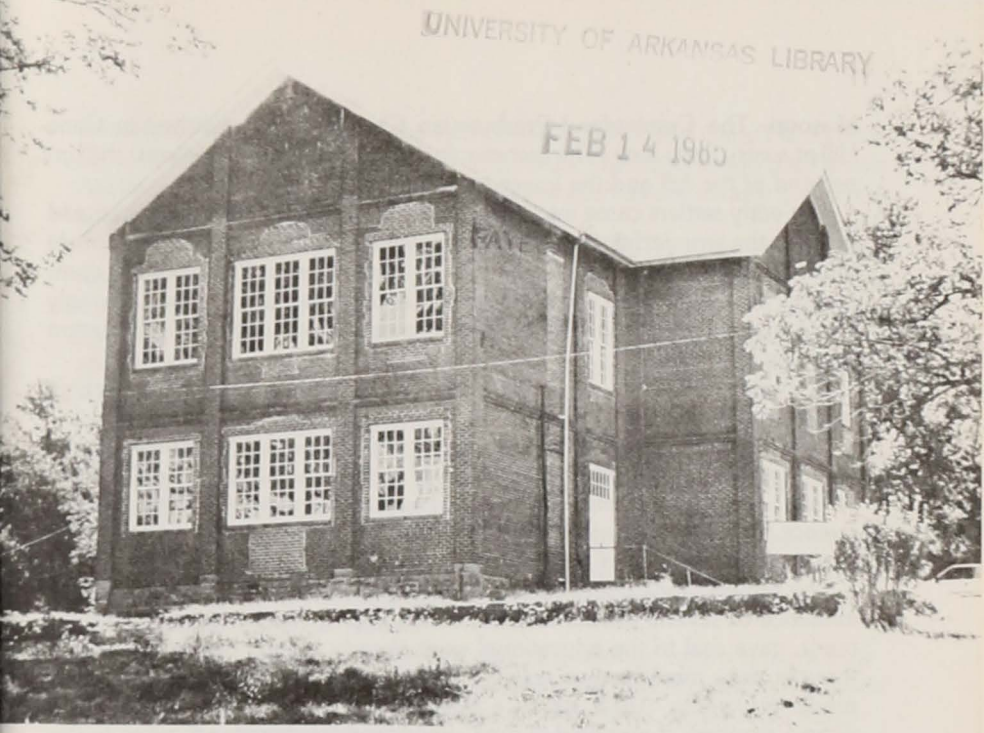


Photo by Amy L. Wilson

CANE HILL COLLEGE

By Wanda Karnes

The Cane Hill College building has recently been restored and dedicated as a community center for the folks in and around Cane Hill. Among those who worked hard to accomplish this task were Mr. and Mrs. James Irwin of Springdale. She was born in Cane Hill and he in Clyde, Arkansas. Both were raised in these communities and so have many strong ties thereabouts. While attending the University of Arkansas, Mrs. Irwin (then known as Wanda Karnes) wrote the following paper for one of her English classes. This information essay won her an "A" and the comment, *"A good paper!"* We concur. Your Editor

The Cane Hill College was located at Boonsboro, Arkansas, in Washington County. This is where higher education in Arkansas began, and many of the state's educational leaders were educated here.

Boonsboro later became Cane Hill. It was named Cane Hill because of the many cane brakes on the Hill. This little valley town is one of the most beautiful and most interesting sections of country to be found in the whole Ozark region of northwest Arkansas. It is about seven miles in length from northwest to southeast, and from one to three miles in width. It has more than one hundred crystal springs of pure, cold water gushing forth from the limestone bluffs and ledges. The *Cane Hill soil* is a rich, sandy, soil. Cane Hill was the trading center as well as the education and religious center for the larger portion of northwest Arkansas, east Oklahoma, and southwest

Missouri. The Cumberland Presbyterian Church was established in Cane Hill at a very early date. The community is divided into two sections: the *upper end of the hill* and the *lower end of the hill.*

The early settlers came into this country in 1827 and 1828, and camped because the wonderful springs were so inviting. Deciding to establish homes there, they brought their preachers with them. The sentiment of the community was positively religious, and denominationally, it was strongly Cumberland Presbyterian. Also, the settlers became interested in education from the beginning.

Professor Andrew H. Buchanan, who was reared in Cane Hill, speaking of earlier days in Cane Hill said:

I know that the establishment of the college was due to the public spirit, high moral character, and appreciation of higher education of the Cane Hill settlers. A more substantial community I have never seen elsewhere. The influence of that people will live and work when their names are forgotten, as many of them are even now.

The settlers made many efforts to establish schools. As early as 1834 the influence of several private schools, conducted by teachers of good attainment, gave zeal to the educational spirit already among the people. They thought they must have a college. The first educational movement was made in October, 1828, when a Sunday School was organized by Rev. John Carnahan. It was held in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in the Cane Hill community. Following the organization of the Sunday School, the problem of a day school came up and was met by the erection of a log school house and a short term school. This school was probably the first school established on Arkansas soil. It opened in April, 1835, and kept open about seventeen years, when the Cane Hill College was chartered. The purpose of this school was to educate young men for the ministry. It was located at the *upper end of the hill* in a substantial two room log house, which served as a school building almost to the beginning of the Civil War.

The second effort resulted in the establishment of the *Elm Grove School* in 1840. It was located at the *lower end of the hill.* It was about one and one-half miles southwest of where the college was located. This school had not only a local patronage, but students from adjoining and even distant counties attended.

In 1850, a substantial brick house of two rooms was built and Thomas G. McCollough and Samuel D. Lowry of Indiana, both cultured and experienced teachers, were employed and school was started, nominally under the patronage of Presbyteries of Arkansas and a few other Presbyteries. This school was entitled *Cane Hill Collegiate Institute.* It was a school exclusively for boys, but the people of Cane Hill had no thought of leaving their daughters uneducated.

The people began to establish a school for the young ladies. They succeeded in the establishment of several small schools, but it seemed difficult to establish a larger school for girls. However, the *Cane Hill Female Seminary* was finally established which was for the young ladies as was the *Cane Hill Collegiate Institute* for the young men. It was started by J.B.

Russel and was located near the *Elm Grove School*. The *Cane Hill Female Seminary* was chartered December 10, 1852. The act creating the *Female Seminary* states: *The right to confer degrees such as are usually granted in colleges and universities in the United States.*

In 1856 a two-story building with belfry was added to the seminary and also a music department was opened. Rev. Andrew Buchanan, who first conceived the idea of starting a college, died in 1857, and by his will left his beautiful home to Cane Hill College. There was, also, another building erected which was framed structure, two stories high. This building provided a place for literary society hall, library and laboratory.

The complete plan for the college matured in 1852, and the act for creating the *Cane Hill College* was approved December 15, 1852. The following extracts from that act show the organization of the college and the scope of its powers. The act provided:

Section 1. That the name of the institution of learning at Boonsboro in Washington County, Arkansas heretofore, known as 'Cane Hill Institute', be, and the same is, hereby changed and said institution shall hereafter by denominated 'Cane Hill College'.

Section 2. That the said institution shall be under the control and management of the Arkansas Synod of the Cumberland and Presbyterian Church instead of the Arkansas and Washington Presbyteries of the said church.

Section 3. That the following persons be, and they are, hereby appointed trustees of said college, viz.; Andrew Buchanan, James B. Russel, Lewis B. Hagood, Benjamin H. Pierson, Samuel Doak Lowry, Richard Bean, James A. Hagood, Samuel McCooloch, George Morrow, Isaac W. Talkington and Anderson Cox, who are hereby constituted a body politic and corporate, in deed and in law, by the name of the 'Board of Trustees of Cane Hill College', and by that name they and their successors in the office shall have perpetual succession.

** * * *Provided, they shall always be under the control of said Synod; and provided, they shall perform no act contrary to the laws of this state or of the United States.*

Section 11. That the faculty of said college shall have power to confer such degrees in the arts and sciences upon such other persons, as in their judgment are worthy of them, as are usually conferred by colleges and universities in the United States; and to grant diplomas or certificates thereof, which shall be signed by the president and professor of said college and sealed with the common seal of the corporation, to authenticate and perpetuate such graduation.

This college was the first chartered college in Arkansas.

Rev. Robert M. King was chosen first president of the college and to him was assigned departments of ancient languages and literature; Samuel D. Lowry was his assistant and, also, professor of mathematics. After about six years, King resigned and his place was filled by the promotion of Professor Lowry. James H. Crawford and P.W. Buchanan were made assistants at that same time. In March, 1859, F.R. Earle, of Greenville, Kentucky, accepted the presidency, and was formally inaugurated the following June.

The college opened in 1855, in a brick building that was erected for the purpose. This building was valued at six thousand dollars. The school year divided into two terms of twenty weeks each, first beginning on third Monday in September of each year. This was later changed to first Monday in September. Tuition in the primary department was $8.00 a session, from $13.00 to $18.00 in preparatory department, and $25.00 in all college classes. Good boarding was two dollars per week.

The first Bachelors Degrees of the Cane Hill College were granted in 1859. These were granted to S.H. Buchanan and J.T. Buchanan.

In the spring of 1861, the college was found in the most flourishing condition it had yet attained. Then came the *grim-visaged war*. The young men of the country left all behind and rushed to the conflict. In May, 1861, the doors of Cane Hill College were closed. Three years later the college buildings with the entire village were burned by United States soldiers.

After the war Cane Hill was only broken walls, crumbling foundations; lone chimneys stood. The friends and supporters of the college were depleted in numbers and broken in fortune. It seemed impossible to reconstruct the college.

As soon as the people were re-established in their homes, they again returned to the college. In 1868, the college was again opened with the president, Rev. F.R. Earle, still at the head of the institution.

From the time of the war, there was no school for the young ladies in Cane Hill until 1875, when they were admitted to the Cane Hill College. A music department was also added.

But other misfortunes were awaiting Cane Hill College. On the 10th of October, 1885, the college building was a second time destroyed by fire, evidently the work of an incendiary. Meets were held, arrangements were perfected to continue the school in other buildings through the school year.

An artist working in the 1800's would have depicted Cane Hill's Fires much like this illustration.

A new brick, two-story building was erected and school was reopened January, 1887, F.R. Earle being president. After the reopening the school did fairly well for three or four years, when its doors were finally closed. It lacked the support of the Synod of Arkansas as contemplated in its organization and it was over-shadowed by the State University less than twenty miles distant. The people of Cane Hill and the sacrificing faculty of the institution were unable longer to maintain a college standard.

In conclusion, there is here appended a fragment from the pen of Dr. F.R. Earle, found among his papers. The date and occasion of the writing are unknown, but it is valuable as a tribute to the results accomplished by Cane Hill College.

It is entitled, or headed, *Other Students of Cane Hill College*. Dr. Earle says:

Before speaking of the others, I wish to say this concerning the list of graduates: Not one whose name appears on that list has become a drunkard, a gambler or otherwise a vicious person. All who yet live are worthy members of society and are doing something to make the world wiser and better. A great many have attended the school for one, two or more sessions who have gone forth and in life's various walks have made their marks in the world. In the earlier days of the college, when the neighborhood was young and strong, the school had the support of the Buchanans, Mitchells, Carnahans, Crawfords, Beans, Spencers, Pyeatts, McCollochs, Hagoods and a number of others. Besides these of the community the boarding patronage was extensive.

Among the students here before the war may be mentioned Professor James Mitchell, who is too well known in the State to need anything like a biographical sketch in this paper; Rev. Peter Carnahan of Bentonville, Capt. J.P. Carnahan, William Mitchell, W.C. Braly and others who have been known more or less in public life received a great part of their education at this place. Quite a number of the solid, good farmers, also of this and adjacent communities were educated in this school.

From other counties some came who have gained success and distinction. Among these I might mention Robert J. Wilson, a prominent merchant of Russellville, Arkansas, and the Hon. B.J. Brown of Van Buren. Hempstead County gave good patronage from the families of the Stewarts, Burts and others.

After the war we had from the Indian Territory some of the Vanns, Graysons, Porters, Brewers, Foremans, and others who have been men of mark.

The memory of this school will be cherished as long as one of its sons or daughters shall survive.

Long may Cane Hill College live in the educational annals of the State.

TWO FAMILY HISTORIES

Part 1 The Greggs

By Robert D. Plumlee

Robert Gregg was born ca 1732, probably in Northern Ireland. It is thought the father, John, and his family emigrated to America in the early 1740s, living in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania for a number of years, leaving there about November of 1750, traveling through the Shenandoah Valley to Augusta County, Virginia where John Gregg died in 1758 (from Court Records, Augusta County, Virginia.)

Some Gregg descendants claim that Robert married Alice Harrison, but this has not been proven. It is thought that Robert married ca 1754. His youngest child Elizabeth was born about 1777. He did not mention a wife in his will dated 1793 (from Greene County, TN records).

The first mention of Robert in Augusta County, Virginia court records was in the 1755 tax list and for the next thirty years there are many references to Robert in that county. He accumulated some 1,000 acres of land on the North River of Shenandoah about two miles from the small town of Mt. Solon (according to Augusta County, VA deed book No. 26). 500 acres were from a 1769 land grant. Robert Gregg served in the Virginia Militia in the French-Indian War (from Henning's "Statues at Large"). Also, in 1774 he served in the expedition in Tennessee against the Cherokees under Capt. Sawyers and Col. Christie. This led them to the Tellico Valley towns of the Cherokees.

It was also recorded in Augusta County, Virginia records "Robert Gregg is about to remove to the frontiers of North Carolina, 22 October 1788". (This later became Tennessee). Augusta County records reveal that Robert sold 513 acres of land in Augusta County 31 October 1778 to Frederick Michel. He purchased 500 acres of land from Alexander Kelly south of the Nolichucky River in Green County, TN 3 February 1789, according to Greene County records. There Robert Gregg built the first brick home in Greene County.

In the name of God amen. This twenty-third day of May 1793 I, Robert Gregg of Greene County and territory of the United States South of the River Ohio, being low in boddy but in perfect mind and good memory do and ordain this my last will and testament which is as follows. In the first place I do give and bequeth my soul to God who gave it me and as tuching such wourldly estates where with it has pleased God to bless me with in this

life. I give and dispose of the same in the following manner and form - that is I do give and bequeath to my two beloved sons John and William Gregg the land I now possess to them and their heirs or assigns forever and that the executors shall divide the land so as to have eatch and equal in value the improvements considered and that one shall not dispose of his part without the concent of the other. Also I bequeath to my beloved son John Gregg the little Sorrel mare and the young Bay horse and the old white horse, one grown cow and two young cattle, four sheep and half the hogs. I also bequeath unto my beloved son William Gregg the young Sorrel mair the young gray horse, one grown cow and two young cattle, four sheep and half the hogs, my rifle gun and the shot gun, the big pot and crook these to himself or his heirs forever. Item I bequeath to my son John Gregg the little oven and the little pot and crook and one plow. To William Gregg one plow. These to their heirs or assigns forever.

Item. I do bequeath to my beloved Daughter Abegail Gregg the young rone mair, one cow and three sheep hir bed and beding and the half of the dresser to hir self and her heirs or assigns forever. Item. I do bequeath to my beloved Daughter Betsy Gregg one bed and beding to hir, hir heirs and asigns forever. Item. I bequeath to my beloved son Robert Gregg my big bible to himself forever. Item. I bequeath to my son Samuel Gregg my sword to him, his heirs or asigns forever.

Item. All that remains at my death over and above paying the Legates above mentioned and what money is coming from Virginia that may remain at my death after paying Col. Kelley also it is my desior that out of the price of the stud known by the name of Shakeseer that there shall be twenty five pounds Virginia currency in cattle and sheep to my daughter Betsey Gregg for her own use forever. Item. I do bequeath to my beloved sons Thomas Gregg, Henry Gregg and Robert Gregg, Benjamin Crow and George Malcom and Joseph McMurry an equal share of all that remains of my estate at my death over and above paying all my legates here ways mentioned. Item. I do also bequeath to my two sons John and William Gregg eatch of them their heirs and what books remain at my death to equally divide between them. I bequeath the big bible and the harrow to go with the little plow this to them and their heirs forever. I do likewise constitute and appoint make and ordain my two beloved sons Samuel and Robert Gregg to be my sole executors. I leave the cupper tools to John Gregg and my saddle and bridle to William Gregg. Item. My desire is while John and William Gregg live and works together that William Gregg bargain nor trade none but John Gregg be sole actor for him while they work together but if they separate the executor is to take William Greggs estate all in their hands and keep it for him until he is one and twenty years old. I do hereby utterly dissolve revoke and disanul all and every other former testament wills and bequeath and executors by me in any ways before named willed and bequeathed ratifying and conforming this and no other to be my last will and testament. In witness whereof I have here unto set my hand and seal the day and year above written. Signed Sealed Published Pronounced Delivered by me the Said

Robert Gregg (Seal)

Robert Gregg died May 1796 in Greene County, Tennessee.

Now we will leave the Gregg family, except for Samuel Gregg who married in Augusta County, Virginia to Jane - and also removed with his father Robert to Greene County, TN where he obtained a land grant in 1787. Samuel Gregg served in the Revolutionary War, but more about his later. Samuel Gregg was born 12 December 1757 in Augusta County, died 12 January 1841 in Washington County, Arkansas. He rests now in Gehrings Chapel Cemetery, Fayetteville.

The State of Alabama
Lawrence County *Circuit Court September term for 1832*

On this 29th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Hon. John White Judge of the 4th Judicial Circuit of the State of Alabama, now sitting, Samuel Gregg law. resident of said County and State aged Seventy five years; who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832 (to wit) that he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. He served his first campaign against the Indians on the levels of green briar river, Virginia as a volunteer under Captain Edward Irvine from Augusta County, Virginia, where affiant was born and then resided. Major Vance commanded the Battalion, the Indians were driven from their towns without the fire of a gun. We were out a little upwards of two months and he had no discharge. This happened about the same time that the battle of Lexington was fought.

Was afterwards called into service to guard English prisoners taken at the Cowpens, continued in service about one month.

3rd tour he volunteered under Captain Thomas Smith to go against the English then in North Carolina about 1781 as well as he recollects dates -Marched from Virginia towards Guildford - crossed Dan river at Stovall's Ferry - Col. Moffet commanded the battalion or regiment - was in an engagement with the British at Guildford North Carolina. Genl. Greene commanded the Americans. Col. Washington, and a major, or Col. Lee from Virginia was along. Washington commanded one corps and Col. Lee the other part of the light horse. The Brittish (sic) in that battle drove the North Carolina militia first without much fighting - then the Virginia militia done a little better after which our regiment drove them a little distance but they all got mixed together and confused and Genl. Greene retreated about ten miles to the Iron works. After that the Brittish (sic) retreated and our army followed them. After breaking up from Speedwell Iron works and following the Brittish (sic) a few days my tour was out and I went home and immediately returned to Yorktown and stayed there during the siege until Lord Cornwallis made a surrender of his whole army to Genl. Washington. Then I returned home and was never in but two battles, Guilford and the Siege of York, went a tour to the lower part of Virginia under Lieut. Camp-

bell in the horse to Hickory neck church. Before he got there Major Hamilton was defeated by the Brittish (sic) and he did not join them but returned home. Was gone not one month. I went another tour to the lower part of North Carolina and was gone one month - no battle. In all I was out in service about 10 months. Never had a discharge. Am about seventy five years of age - My age recorded in my Father's Bible, now is possession of one of my brothers now in Missouri. Never had any discharge from Service nor did I ever receive one cent of pay. I moved from Augusta Virginia after the close of the Revolution to East Tennessee and from East Tennessee to Alabama where he has resided twenty three years. Cannot prove his services by any person in this Country. The last man he knows of lived about forty miles from there and has since died. His name is Evan Evans, he heard of him about one year ago. As a soldier of the Revolution Crockett McDonald a Clergyman lives near him and knows he is a man of veracity and entitled to credit. Said McDonald, John Gallagher, Argyle Campbell and David G. Lyon, all know he is reputed and believed to have been a Soldier of the Revolution in his neighborhood. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

Before the signing I further state that I served one tour of three months in the year 1774 against the Cherokee Indians. Capt. Sawyer of Botetourt County, VA., Col. Cristie from Rockbridge Co. in command about 450 men. We marched to the valley towns west of Tallico and there made a treaty. My father killed young McCormack a half-breed chief which made much noise and delayed the treaty. My oldest brother had been killed by the Indians.

Sworn to and subscribed as above stated.
Sworn to and subscribed on Sept. 29 1832.
Samuel Gregg
John Gallagher Clerk

We Crockett McDonald a Clergyman residing in Lawrence County Alabama, and John Gallagher, Argyle Campbell and David G. Lyon residing in the same hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Samuel Gregg who has sworn to and subscribed the above declaration that we believe him to be seventy five years of age that he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the revolution and that we concur in that opinion.

Sworn to and subscribed the day *C. McDonald*
and year aforesaid *D.G. Lyon*
Sworn to and subscribed in *John Gallagher*
Sept. 29 1832.
John Gallagher Clerk

And the said Court doth hereby declare its opinion after the investigation of the matter and after putting the interrogation prescribed by the War Department that the above applicant was a Revolutionary Soldier and served as he states and the Court further certifies that it appears to them that Crockett McDonald who has signed the preceding certificate is a Clergyman

resident in the County of Lawrence aforesaid and that John Gallagher, Argyle Campbell, and David G. Lyon who have also signed the same are citizens resident in said County and are creditable persons and that their statement is entitled to credit. *John White Judge*
of the 4th Judicial Circuit of
the State of Alabama

I John Gallagher Clerk of the Circuit Court for said County of Lawrence do hereby certify that the foregoing contains the original proceedings of the said Court in the matter of the application of Samuel Gregg for a pension.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal of office this 29th day of September 1832. *Judge Gallagher Clerk*

Samuel Gregg was awarded a pension of 33⅓ dollars yearly. Samuel Gregg appeared in the State of Arkansas County of Washington on the 23rd day of April 1836 and stated he had moved from Lawrence County Alabama to the State of Missouri where his brothers lived. He then decided to move to Washington County, AR to be near his sons in the fall of 1835 where he has resided ever since. He asked for transfer of his pension. The sons were Henry, Samuel Jr. and Ellis Gregg.

Pension Application

All reference to military service from National Archives and Record Services, Washington, D.C.

In the J.P. court of William Lamkin (?) on the 12th day of April 1849 appeared Henry Gregg and Samuel Gregg Sons and heirs at law to file for final payment of the Pension of Samuel Gregg. Witnesses were William C. Roberts and Thornsberry W. Barr who stated they saw Samuel Gregg on the day of his decease on or about the 12th day of January 1841 and that he had no wife at that time. *Presley R. Smith*
County Clerk

Let's return to Greene County, TN and trace the moves of the family of Samuel and Jane Gregg. They remained in Greene County about 16 or 17 years, then removed to Roane County, TN about the year 1804. Samuel bought a tract of land on Town Creek near Lenoir City in 1808 as shown on Roane County records. Samuel served as Justice of the Peace, election bondsman, and many times as bondsman in Roane County. His last court appearance there was in 1810. He apparently moved to Alabama in 1811 where he resided some 23 years. Records show Samuel Gregg of Madison County, Mississippi Territory, sold his land in Roane County, TN.

Children of Samuel Gregg

1. Elizabeth Gregg, b. ca 1782 Augusta County, VA, M (1st) John Ellis and had children: (1) Nancy (Ann) Ellis, b. 1805 Greene County, TN, m. ca 1823 Robert M. White, Franklin County, AL, d. ca 1860 Lawrence County, AL; (2) James Epperson Ellis, b. ca 1808, d. 1836 Goliad, TX,

joined the "Red Rovers" of Courtland, AL and was killed in the massacre at Goliad, TX; (3) Avery Ellis, b. 1810 Madison County, AL, m. 1st Elizabeth Devine, 2nd Mary Harvey 1852, d. Blount County, TN; (4) Minerva Ellis, b. ca 1812 Madison County, AL, m. 1836 Thomas Coopwood; (5) John Ellis, M.D., b. ca 1816 Lawrence County, AL, d. Burleson County, TX. Elizabeth m. (2nd) John S. White in Lawrence County, AL or Monroe County, MS and had children: (1) Adeline White, b. ca 1821 Lawrence County, AL, m. 1st 1838 William Devan, 2nd Alexander Dirwand, Mobile, AL; (2) Ellen White, b. ca 1824 Lawrence County, AL, m. William Weaver, d. Columbus MS; (3) William S. White, b. ca 1827, d. ca 1866; (4) Hugh B. White, b. ca 1829, d. ca 1853.

2. Lydia Gregg, b. ca 1787, Augusta County, VA, m. 1807 William Bigham.
3. Jane Gregg, b. ca 1792, Greene County, TN, m. 1814 Robert M. White.
4. Henry Gregg, b. 25 May 1792, Green County, TN, m. 1st June 1815, Limestone County, AL to Mary Murrell, b. 22 Dec. 1795 TN. Henry Gregg d. 28 April 1877 Washington County, AR. Mary Gregg d. 1864 Washington County, AR. Both interred Evergreen Cemetery, Fayetteville. Henry Gregg served in the War of 1812.

Application for Bounty Land:

State of Arkansas, County of Washington. On this the twenty fourth day of May A.D. 1857 personally appeared before me an acting and duly commissioned Justice of the Peace within and for said County and State aforesaid Henry Gregg age about fifty nine years a resident of the County of Washington in the State aforesaid who being duly sworn according to law declares that he is the identical Henry Gregg who was a Private in the company commanded by Captain Hugh Carr that he volunteered and joined said company as a Company of Rangers in the War with the Creek Indians and if the Said Company commanded by the aforesaid Hugh Carr was joined with any regular numbered regiment he knows not what that number was nor by whom such regiment was commanded neither does he know of any person by whom he can prove such facts. That he volunteered at Limestone County in the State of Alabama on or about the 30th day of November A.D. 1813 for the tour of three months and continued in actual service in said was for the term of three months (sic) and was honorably discharged at Huntsville Alabama on or about the first day of March in the year of Christ 1814 as will appear by the muster rolls of his Company. He states that he received a regular Certificate of discharge at the time and place aforesaid but that he gave a Power of Attorney to a third person to draw his wages for the aforesaid service and that he transferred his Certificate of Discharge therewith and that he cannot now produce it. He makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the bounty land to which he may be entitled under the act granting bounty land to certain officers and soliders who have been engaged in the military service of the United States, passed September 28th A.D. 1850. *Henry Gregg*

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year above written and

Certify that I believe the said Henry Gregg to be the identical man who served as aforesaid and that he is of the age about stated.

Wm. A. S. Throckmortin J.P.

Declaration for a Pension Under Act of February 14, 1871 - War of 1812: State of Arkansas County of Washington. On this 29 day of April A.D. one thousand eight hundred and seventy one, personally appeared before me. G.W.M. Reed Clerk of the County, a Court of Record within and for the County and State aforesaid, Henry Gregg aged 79 years, a resident of the County of Washington, State of Arkansas who being duly sworn to law declares that he is married and that his wifes name was Mary Murrell, to whom he was married at Limestone County, AL on the first day of June, 1815, that he served the full period of sixty days in the military service of the United States in the War of 1812: that he is the identical Henry Gregg who enrolled in Captain Fleming Hodges Company Alabama troops attached to the Tennessee Militia and stationed at Ft. Montgomery and was honorably discharged at Huntsville, Alabama, that I was left at Pensacola under command of Maj. Russell when General Andrew Jackson left there for New Orleans with his army. Was at Fort Montgomery when the Battle of New Orleans was fought. He makes this declaration for the purpose of being placed on the Pension Rolls of the United States under the provision of the act approved February 14, 1871 and that he hereby constitutes and appoints with full power of substitution and revocation G.W.M. Reed, Washington County, Ark. true and lawful attorney to prosecute his claim and obtain the Pension Certificate that may be issued: That his post office is Fayetteville, County of Washington, State of Arkansas, That his domicile or place of abode is Fayetteville, Ark. Henry Gregg applicant

attest C. G. Gilbreath

J. R. Pettigrew

Henry Gregg's service shows he volunteered November 30, 1813, was discharged March 1, 1814, volunteered September 30, 1814, and was discharged May 1, 1815. He served as a private in his first enlistment in Capt. Hugh Carrs' Tennessee Militia, and served his second tour in Capt. F. Hodges' Company of Tennessee Militia. He served a total of 181 days.

Henry Gregg's Will:

To all whom it may concern Know ye that I Henry Gregg of Washington County in the State of Arkansas do make constitute and publish the following as my last will and testament. That is to say I will that when dead my body is to be decently interred and it and my beloved and deceased wife enclosed and furnished with suitable monuments and inscriptions.

2nd. I will and bequeath to my daughter Delaney Cardwell all my household and kitchen furniture and also all the interest now due or due to become due on a one thousand dollar note I hold against my son Lafayette Gregg.

3rd. I will and bequeath unto Andrew S. Gregg Sr. and Henry Cardwell all the remainder of my Estate of every kind and discription whatever, in trust and for the following uses and purposes to wit. first to pay all just debts

and legal liabilities. Next to pay the funeral and cemetery expense. Third to turn over to my said daughter Delaney Cardwell (or allow her to keep) what is herein above willed to her. Fourth to collect all sums due me and to distribute the same among my grandchildren now living.

4th. The said Andrew S. Gregg and Henry C. Cardwell are hereby fully empowered to sue for and collect all sums due me and they are authorized to make full distribution of all my Estate within six months after my decease and without any orders or direction from the Probate Court or any other Court or authority; and they are to dispose of my Estate as above directed without any administration or letters of executorship.

The said Gregg and Henry C. Cardwell being required to execute a good and sufficient bond in the sum of $1000.00 to be approved by the Judge of the Court of Probate for the faithful performance of the trust herein reposed in them and they are to be free to act under the direction herein given without any settlements with any Court whatsoever.

The said Andrew S. Gregg and Henry C. Cardwell are hereby directed and required to pay over to each one of my said grandchildren directly and take receipt of such child for the amount so paid. Provided such child is fifteen years old and such of my grandchildren as are not that old they shall take the receipt of the parent for the amount of any child under that age.

The necessary expenses of carrying out the trust herein provided for will be paid by said Trustees and they are not expected to charge over one percent commission for their trouble and to pay no unnecessary expenses and if either one of them from any cause whatever should not accept this trust the other shall carry the same into effect.

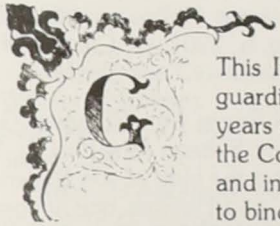
My son Lafayette Gregg having been well provided for, he is to take no part in my Estate only such part as may come to his children that are under 15 years of age.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal to this will and testament this 29th March 1877.

his
Henry X Gregg
mark

attest L. Gregg *(seal)*

Note: Henry Gregg signed with "X" and in earlier records he had signed with an excellent hand. This will without a doubt was written by his son Lafayette Gregg.



An Indenture:

This Indenture witnesseth that William C. Roberts as guardian of Wyatt Evans a minor of the age of thirteen years appointed by the honorable the Probate Court of the County of Washington and in the State of Arkansas and in the State of Arkansas and by such Court directed to bind out the said Wyatt Evans as apprentice to some useful art trade or business does hereby with the aprobation of said Probate Court put place and bind out the said Wyatt Evans to Henry Gregg who is by trade a farmer and who is chosen by the Said Wyatt Evans to learn the art

and trade of farming and with him after the manner of an apprentice to sell and serve from the ensealing hereof until the 17th day of February A.D. 1854 when the said Wyatt Evans will arrive at the age of twenty one years. During the term aforesaid as an apprentice well and faithfully to the said Henry Gregg and to him give and devote his whole time and labor and the said Henry Gregg for himself and his Executors and administrators do Covenant with the said William C. Roberts as such guardian that he will faithfully instruct the said Wyatt Evans in the art and trade aforesaid so far as the said Wyatt Evans may show himself capable of learning the same that he will during the time aforesaid constantly supply the said Wyatt Evans with good suitable and sufficient food lodgeing and clothing and all other things necessary in sickness and in health and educate the said Wyatt Evans to spell, read, write and cipher to the single rule of three inclusive and to give the said Wyatt Evans two suits of clothes and a horse saddle and bridle to be of the value of seventy five dollars when he arrives at the age of twenty one years and will as far as in him lies train him up in the habits of industry temperance and virtue.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 22nd day of January 1847. Henry Gregg

The children of Henry and Mary Murrell Gregg were: (1) Maston S. Gregg, b. 29 March 1816, Lawrence County, AL, m. Cynthia Lloyd, d. 5 August 1868 (see FLASHBACK July 1965 "Hanging of Maston Gregg). Maston and Cynthia Ann Lloyd Gregg had children: (A) Paralee, b. Dec. 30, 1837, d. before 1850; (B) William S. Gregg, b. 1840, died young; (C) Benson Watson Gregg, b. 1842, m. Francis Dailey, d. 1908; (D) daughter d. at birth 1844; (E) Wesley F., b. 1845, d. 1865; (F) Sultana Jane Gregg, b. 1848, m. Thomas J. Johnson, d. 1933; (G) John Henry Gregg, b. Nov. 9, 1851, m. June 14, 1874 Martha Quillin. The children of John H. and Martha Gregg were: (a) Mary Mable, b. 1877, d. 1965, m. Cleave Walter Head, had four children; (b) Margaret Eldora Gregg, b. 1878, m. George A. Sanders at Spring Valley, had six children; (c) James William Gregg, b. 1882, d. 1883; (d) Joe Lafayette Gregg, b. 1884, m. Lela Neill who d. 1923, m. 2nd Beulah Bridenthall and had three daughters; (e) Henry Claude Gregg, b. 1886, m. Anna Marie Kendrick and had seven children; (f) Virgil S. Gregg, b. 1888, m. Esther Lewis; (g) John Benson Gregg, b. 1891, m. Ruth Robinson; (h) Hubert A. Gregg (twin) b. 1894, m. Maude Rogers; (i) Bertha Gregg (twin) b. 1894, m. James Hollaway; (j) Uriel Gregg, b. 1898, m. Oran Lasbell; (k) Irene Gregg, b. 1901, m. Charles W. McGough.

The second child of Henry and Mary Murrell Gregg was (2) Albert G. Gregg, b. 27 Feb. 1817, Lawrence County, Al, m. Sultana Jane Barr, b. 2 March 1823 and d. 8 May 1852, a short time after the birth of son Robert. (Sultana Jane Barr was daughter of William G. and Hannah Barr whose other children were: James W. Barr, b. July 5, 1821; William Barr, b. Feb. 3, 1825; d. Dec. 18, 1840; Thornsberry W. Barr, b. Oct. 13, 1827, d. Mar. 4, 1911; John Franklin Barr, b. Dec. 27, 1829; Elizabeth Ann Barr, b. July

21, 1832, d. 1889; Isaac Patton Barr, b. ?, d. Sept. 27, 1833; Thomas Humpery Barr, b. Apr. 22, 1834, d. Sept 20, 1843.) Albert and Sultana Jane Barr had children: (A) Sarah Caroline Gregg, b. Oct. 18, 1839, d. May 7, 1927 (note mother Sultana was age 16 at this birth); (B) Humphry Paris Gregg, b. Sept. 22, 1842, d. Aug. 26, 1907; (C) Elizabeth Ann Gregg, b. Nov. 2, 1845; (D) Mary Emiline Gregg, b. Mar. 3, 1848; (E) James Franklin Gregg, b. Mar. 28, 1850; (F) Robert Albert Gregg, b. Apr. 30, 1852. On 28 Sept. 1854, Albert G. Gregg m. 2nd Elizabeth McRoy (McElroy?). Issue not known. Albert G. Gregg was the first postmaster of Springdale, Arkansas. The small log building was on the original location on the south part of town when the writer was young. Albert G. Gregg served with the Confederacy and was killed in the battle of Clinton, MO. The second child of Albert G. and Sultana Jane Gregg was Humphry P. Gregg who m. 1st 1868 Dora Nicholson and had children: (a) Albert Lee Gregg, b. Nov. 16, 1868, d. 19 July 1958, m. 1st Elizabeth Jones, 2nd Frankie Searcy; (b) John Edwin Gregg, b. 15 Apr. 1870, d. Apr. 1917; (c) Margaret Elizabeth Gregg, b. 20 Nov. 1872, m. Tom Feeney, d. 22 June 1962; (d) Sarah Ellen Gregg, b. 18 May 1874, d. 25 July 1968, m. Tom Moneyhun 24 Nov. 1895; (e) Laura Gregg, b. 6 Dec. 1876, d. 7 July 1907, m. 1st Fred Eidson; (f) Maude Adelaid Gregg, b. 25 July 1879, d. 12 Nov. 1952; (g) Willie Franklin Gregg, b. 30 Jan. 1888, d. 23 Nov. 1949, m. Annie Gilbreath; (h) Charles Loyd Gregg, b. 6 Aug. 1891, d. 1 May 1958, m. Eunice Beach; (i) Elsie Ann Gregg, b. 24 Aug. 1893, m. Greg Franklin Wilson and had one son Sterling Gregg Wilson. Humphry Paris Gregg served in the Confederate Army for three years and six months and m. 2nd Mrs. Ownbey.

The third child of Henry and Mary Murrell Gregg was (3) Caroline Gregg, b. 12 Mar. 1819, Lawrence County, Al, m. William C. Roberts. The 1850 Census of Washington County, Arkansas shows in the town of Fayetteville #43:

William C. Roberts	34 b. TN	Constable
Caroline	30 b. AL	
John	13 m. Ark	Student
George	11 m. Ark	Student
Mary	9 f. Ark	Student
Orleana	6 f. Ark	Student
Sarah	4 f. Ark	
William	1 m. Ark	

Evidently the Census was also taken at the Fayetteville jail as #24 shows

William C. Roberts	34 b. TN	Jailor
Isaac Stout	25 b. IA	Blacksmith, in jail larceny
James Lyle	40 unknown	in jail assault and battery

History of Arkansas, Vol. III states "William C. Roberts Sr. born East Tennessee 1825 (probably should be 1815, to judge from 1850 Census), died Hillsboro, Texas 1895. Came with his father-in-law Henry Gregg to Arkansas in pioneer days. Was a Captain in Civil War (of a Texas company), married Caroline Greff dau. of Henry Gregg. She died in 1855 leaving five

children, John H. and George W. both killed serving in Confederate Army, Mary J. who m. W.H. Hurt and died in Hillsboro, Texas, Sarah D. wife of Samuel Hill of Helena Okla., and William C. Roberts Jr. William C. Jr. was born in Fayetteville, Ark. May 18, 1850.

(4) Delaney Gregg, b. 16 Feb. 1822 Lawrence County, Al, m. William Harper Cardwell, b. 19 Aug. 1819 Bedford County, TN. They m. Washington County, AR ca 1840-41 and had eight children. This is the line of this writer and more will be written about the Cardwells in Part II.

(5) Lafayette Gregg, b. 2 Feb. 1825 Lawrence County, Al, m. 21 Dec. 1852 Mary Shreve. Much has been written about him in FLASHBACK (see Vol. 23, No. 3). He was a very prominent man in Fayetteville, first as a teacher, then attorney, and a judge. It is said it was his idea and work which brought the University of Arkansas to Fayetteville. He was a Colonel in the Union Army in the 4th Regiment of Arkansas Cavalry. He was mustered by Special Authority War Dept. Dec. 29, 1864 to fill an original vacancy. Nominated by Major General F. Steel, Oct. 16, 1864. From *Historical Review of Arkansas*, Vol. 3, Pg. 1120-21, we learn: "When the war was ended and peace had again been established he became an active politician, taking up the cause of the Republicanism. Prior to his appointment as a member of the supreme court of the state he was prosecuting attorney of Washington County and in both offices his work was characterized by sincere devotion to duty and public-spirited loyalty. He was a good, earnest talker, expressing his thoughts with the utmost fluency and ease, and as a lawyer, was a clear, forceful and skilled practitioner. He was nominated for governor of Arkansas by the Republicans and made the race to preserve party organization and to demonstrate the courage of his convictions. He married Miss Mary A. Shreve, a daughter of Wilson Shreve, who was a native of Todd County, Kentucky. Judge Gregg died in 1891, and his cherished and devoted wife passed away in 1900. They were the parents of the following children: Dr. Andrew S. Lafayette W., assistant United States attorney at Fort Smith, Arkansas; Alice, who died as a child; Henry L., who is now in the employ of the Winchester Arms Company at New Haven, Connecticut; and Ida, who maintains her home in Fayetteville." (Note: the 1880 Census of Washington County also shows a son Alfred W., four years older than Andrew S. and lists his occupation as lawyer.)

From the same *Historical Review of Arkansas* quoted above: "Andrew S. Gregg, M.D., of Fayetteville, is a native son of the state of Arkansas and is one of the most scholarly representatives of his profession in the southwest. He possesses all the requisite qualities of the successful physician, for added to his innate talent and acquired ability along the line of one of the most learned professionis, he has a genial manner and sunshiny, hopeful nature, which cannot fail to have its effect upon his patients. His courteous sympathy as well as his professional skill has gained him distinctive precedence during the thirty years he has spent as practitioner in Fayetteville. ... Dr. Andrew S. Gregg was educated

in the public schools of Fayetteville, in which place he also attended the University of Arkansas, there receiving an excellent literary training. His father's farm lay against the townsite and while out of school his youthful exercise was given to choring and other labor on the farm. He was graduated in the State of University as a member of the class of 1878, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. For a time thereafter he was engaged in teaching school and gradually he became interested in the medical profession. He accordingly studied under the direction of Dr. Wood for a time and in the fall of 1878 he entered the St. Louis Medical College, in which he was graduated in 1881, with his well earned degree of Doctor of Medicine. Immediately after his graduation he returned to Fayetteville, where he opened offices and entered upon the active practice of his profession. During the score and a half of years which mark his career in this city he has built up a large and representative practice and gained prestige as one of the most skilled and most learned physicians and surgeons in Washington County. In connection with his life work he is a member of Washington County Medical Society the Arkansas State Medical Society and the American Medical Association. On the 1st of October, 1885, was celebrated the marriage of Dr. Gregg to Miss Nora B. Cardwell, a daughter of James Cardwell, a pioneer settler in this state. Mrs. Gregg was born in Washington County in 1865 and she and the doctor are the parents of two children, concerning whom the following brief data are here incorporated: Alfred Welch was graduated in the University of Arkansas in the class of 1910, and he is now incumbent of the position of electrical engineer with the Westinghouse Concern at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania; and Mildred is a student in the University of Arkansas, being a member of the class of 1912. Mrs. Gregg is a woman of most pleasing personality and is highly esteemed by all who have come within the sphere of her influence. In his political convictions Dr. Gregg is a staunch advocate of the principles and policies of the Republican party and it has ever been his aim to exert his influence in support of all projects advanced for the general good of the community. He is a member of time-honored Masonic order and of the Knights of Pythias."

The sixth child of Henry and Mary Murrell Gregg was (6) Martha Jane Gregg, b. 5 June 1818 Lawrence County, AL, m. 21 March 1850 Thornberry W. Barr (brother of Sultana Jane Barr who m. Albert G. Gregg).

5. Ellis Gregg, the second son of Samuel Gregg, was mentioned in Lawrence County, AL records. A term of Circuit Court was held in Fayetteville on the 20th day of June, 1835 with the Hon. Archibald Yell as Judge. Ellis Gregg had been charged with murder. "On this day comes the said Ellis Gregg in custody of Lewis Evans, Sheriff, and being brought before the bar in proper person by the Sheriff, it was demanded concerning the premises of the said indictment, how he will aquit himself thereof. He saith that he is not guilty and puts himself upon the Country and Thomas John Esquire, Prosecuting attorney for the United States, doth likewise, therefore, let a jury come. On the next day came the jury as follows: William Skelton, William Boyd, Moses Graham, Garney Brixey, John T. Cox, James Lawrence, Abel Oxford, Archibald Constant, Owen Todd, William

Ake, and Abraham Clements. On the second day of the trial they returned the following verdict: We the jury find the defendent guilty of manslaughter and assess the fine of $1.00 and one hours imprisonment December 16, 1835." (Circuit Court Records, Washington County, AR)

Was Elllis in Fayetteville in December to serve the sentence? We have found no later records; he was not in the 1840 or 1850 census in Washington County. (See 7. below)

6. Samuel Gregg, Jr., b. 1800 in TN m. Mary Smith, probably in Lawrence County, AL. Samuel is the third brother who moved to Washington County by 1835. He obtained land in the area east of Fayetteville on White River, called Oxford Bend. Here Mary died and was buried at Oxford Bend Cemetery in 1846. The Washington County 1850 census shows in Prairie Township:

#117 Samuel Gregg	50 TN	
Adolphus	25 m. AL	
Marget	22 f. TN	
Andrew	21 m. AL	Teacher
Samuel	19 m. AL	
Sarah	14 m. AL	
John	10 m. AL	
Livonia	9 f. AL	
Constantine	9 f. AL	

From the Fayetteville Democrat for 18 Dec. 1869: "Died on Tuesday night Dec. 7, 1869 at his residence in this county Mr. Samuel Gregg in the 70th year of his age."

Andrew Smith Gregg m. 1 Jan. 1852 Sarah Muncy, daughter of Nathaniel Muncy, native of Virginia. Andrew S. and Sarah Gregg had three daughters and a son: Fannie E. Gregg m. Thomas G. Walker, Mary E. Gregg m. Thomas Grey, Dora I. Gregg, and Washington Alexander Gregg. Andrew S. Gregg served his county and state well. He was a farmer and stockman as well as a school teacher. In 1861 he was elected sheriff of Washington County, finished his term, and was re-elected in 1862. During the Civil War, Andrew clerked in the State Treasurer's office and later was in charge of the State Archives. Sarah L. Gregg d. 1903 and was buried in Evergreen Cemetery, as was Andrew S. who died in 1938.

7. John Gregg, b. 1801 in TN, was the forth son of Samuel Gregg and the only one who did not move to Washington County. He m. Sarah (daughter of Samuel Bigham) in Lawrence County, AL 24 Aug. 1818. John was the third elected clerk in Lawrence County. He was later elected sheriff of the county and chose as his deputy his brother Ellis. John was a modest, quiet man in general, but being powerful, he was formidable when roused for he acted very promptly. One incident which happened while he was Sheriff on the McMahon Corner in Moulton, a ring of wild drinking fellows had for several days caused a great annoyance to the Court by their noise and clamor, sometimes bellowing like bulls. At length they became so bold that they came into the court house. One of them caused a great distur-

bance and the Judge ordered him to jail. John Gregg started with him, when one of his friends attempted a rescue. John knocked the interloper down and he fell at full length on the hard brick floor. John, turning to the judge said coolly, "If your honor please, here is a man interfering." It caused a great laugh and the "bull" ring was broken up. In John's court, the execution had preceded the judgment.

In 1835 during the revolution in Texas, John Gregg, in company with W.D. Thomason, John Wren, James Ellis (John's nephew), James McDaniel, Humphrey Montgomery, Farney Smith and Young Kaiser, engaged in that cause. They all entered the same company except James Ellis who, hearing of the arrival of the "Red Rovers" from Courtland, joined them and was amongst those murdered at Goliad.

After the Texas war, John returned to Lawrence for his family and on the way back to Texas was attacked by Indians. This story is told in detail in *The Bandera (TX) Bulletin*, Aug. 3, 1945, *Twice Told Tales by J. Marvin Hunter, Jr.*

"THE GREGG FAMILY TRAGEDY IN 1841"

By Judge Rufus Y. King

In the fall of 1840 Judge John Gregg came from Alabama to our neighborhood, in what was then Milam county, about six miles northeast of the town of Caldwell in the present county of Burleson. Judge Gregg was accompanied by a young man by the name of Claiborne Fitch, and brought with him some negroes. On this land he put young Fitch, in charge of the negroes, to improve it and prepare a home to which he expected to bring his family the following year, but wanted something to come to when his wife and children should locate in the new country.

Early in the spring of 1841, after he had given directions on the new place, he left Texas and went back to Alabama for his family. In October of that year he left his old home in Alabama and started for the new one in Texas, accompanied by his wife, four boys and three girls. The boys' names were Thaddeus, Ellis, John, and the baby boy Henry, who was about six years old. The girls were Lucinda, Martha and Mary. There were also in the party about twenty negroes. When they had traveled the greater part of this country in wagons and had crossed the Neches river in Texas, they began to count the days it would take to bring them to their new home. Their transportation consisted of one six-horse wagon driven by Sterling Fitch, a brother of Claiborne Fitch already mentioned. Another wagon was driven by Thaddeus, the eldest son. Mrs. Gregg, Ellis and little Henry rode in this wagon, which was in the lead.

On the evening of the day that they crossed the Neches river the Judge went on ahead of his family to locate a place to camp that night. Very soon after he left the family a party of Indians charged upon and surrounded the front wagon, killed and scalped Mrs. Gregg and her son, Thaddeus, and wounded Ellis the second son and left him for dead. Little Henry was torn from the arms of his dying mother, thrown on a horse behind one of the savages and carried off a prisoner. The two wagons were some distance

apart, and young Mr. Fitch, who was driving the six-horse team, seeing what was being done to the front wagon, hastily cut the harness of the wheel-horse in his team, lifted Mary up behind him and ran to the rear where Lucinda, Martha and John and the negroes were, and they all sought refuge in the brush. Judge Gregg waited for some time for the wagons to come up, and growing impatient, went back to find the cause of the delay.

What must have been his consternation and horror when he saw that his wife and son had been murdered and scalped, his second son in a dying condition, and his baby boy a prisoner in the hands of savages. No sign of life could be seen. His wagons had been pillaged, and what could not be carried away by the Indians had been piled in a heap and burned. He supposed at first that they had carried off all the other members of his family. In his distressed condition he screamed at the top of his voice, "God have mercy on me." The negroes, secreted in the woods, knew his voice and came to him as he stood by the burned pile. It was near dark at this time. They were in a strange land and in a desperate condition. He laid the bodies of his wife and son on a blanket which he had tied behind his saddle, and placed his wounded son, Ellis, on his overcoat and saddle blankets, covering him with the shawls worn by the girls. There they spent the night. None of them had a change of clothing nor had they eaten anything since noon of that day. The morning came and Mr. Fitch went out and found a good man and his wife, who came to the rescue, first with food for the living, then this man got together some of his neighbors and they improvised rude coffins for the dead, and the second day their bodies were committed to the earth.

On the third morning the Judge bought a yoke of oxen and a cart. In this he placed his wounded son, with such rude comfort as these good friends could supply. They now had two horses, and the cart drawn by two oxen as their means of travel, and with sad hearts they set their faces toward the setting sun. The boy was so weak that their progress was slow, ten miles being about the average day's journey.

The news reached our neighborhood before the family arrived, and when they did come, loving hands and hearts were quickly extended for their relief. My father had grown very fond of Judge Gregg while he was in Texas a few months before, and he and my mother went at once and brought the Judge and his daughters to our house. Mrs. Jacob Reed took the wounded boy and his brother John, to her house. Jacob Reed and his wife were noble plain people, who always responded to help the afflicted and needy. Their house was situated about a mile from where Judge Gregg settled.

Ellis, the wounded son, lived only a few years and died. He never regained his health after the Indians shot him. My mother soon improvised clothing for the girls, who had not had a change since the awful calamity had befalled their family on the Neches. The ladies in the neighborhood promptly came to assist in making clothing for this afflicted family, and I think there were six spinning wheels running all day and until late at night at our house. It did not take long to make clothing enough for a suit for this large family, for Judge Gregg had bought spinning wheels and a loom for his own people to use. I well remember how proud those girls were, when in their new

dresses of homespun they met their father, who was almost overcome when he saw how nice his daughters were dressed. After embracing them, he turned with tears in his eyes and said: "Mrs. King, God bless you for your loving care of my motherless children." The girls stayed at our house until their father had built a comfortable house on his own land for them. They always seemed to love my mother for her kindness to them and to their family.

It was in the early spring of 1842 when someone rode up to our yard fence and asked for my father, who came out at once to see what was wanted. It was Judge Gregg, who said as my father got to the fence: "Judge King, I have good news to tell you. Our dear little Henry is not dead. He is still alive, thank God. He is at a trading post on the Upper Red River, but it will take $500 to ransom him." My father asked him how much he had. He said $150.00. My father then called my mother to ask how much money was in the house, and she reported $98.00. This was less than half the ransom price for the boy. Father had his horse saddled at once and went with Judge Gregg to see Captain Gabriel Jackson, who lived only a mile from our home. Captain Jackson had the money and willingly loaned it to Judge Gregg who, with my father, came back to our house. He asked my brother, John E. King, to go with him, and by midnight Claiborne Fitch, Sterling Fitch, and my brother were ready for the long journey. The four started with a packhorse to carry the provisions and for the boy to ride back on. It was a lonely and dangerous trip, but these brave, determined men made it. They were gone nearly a month and brought the little boy home with them. The whole community rejoiced when this boy arrived at my father's home. He had been cruelly treated by the Indians. His hair all dropped out after he had been at home a few weeks. As soon as he recovered he came to our house and went to school. He was a nice, intelligent boy, and learned rapidly and grew to be an intelligent, honorable man. He was a member of my company during the War Between the States, and when the war ended he came home to his farm in Burleson county and soon afterward married a Miss Grant, who was of a prominent family in that county. They owned a fine Brazos bottom farm on which they made a good support for their family. He was proud of his family. He had a steam cotton gin on his farm; the boiler exploded and poor Henry was killed. I think he left a widow and five children.

Judge Gregg lived only a few years after the sad calamity to his family of which I have written. He never recovered from the shock he received on the Neches river. He always seemed very sad. As before stated, Ellis, the second son, died soon after his father, I think. The next son, John, who was named for his father, went to the frontier with a surveying party and was killed by Indians near Phantom Hill. Lucinda, the eldest daughter, early in 1850 married Captain J.D. Black of Fannin County, and lived less than a year after her marriage. Martha married, but I do not remember the name of her husband. She died in 1855. Mary married Tom Cade in Burleson County. She lived some years and died. All of these children, like their father, always had a sad look. They often spoke of the tragic death of their mother and brother Thaddeus. and of the captivity of the little boy Henry.

Even after he had been ransomed and restored to the family, they spoke of him as one from the dead.

The above clipping was sent me in April 1973 by Mrs. William P. Jordan, Bandera, TX. She is a granddaughter of the captive prisoner:

William (?) Henry Gregg, b. 3 Oct. 1837, AL, m. 20 Feb. 1866 Cynthia Wilkinson, b. 7 May 1843, AL. Their daughter Sallie Gregg, b. 22 Oct. 1876, Burleson County, TX m. Tandy Campbell Easley, b. 12 Jan 1874, same county, on 25 Oct. 1895. Sallie d. 13 Jan. 1923, Tandy d. 26 Nov. 1949.

(Editor's Note: There are discrepancies between the above and Judge King's story. The boy's name was probably William Henry, but called Henry. If he was born in 1837 he would have been only three, not six years old when he was kidnapped. Also, Judge King states that he married a "Miss Grant", not Miss Wilkinson.)

Records show members of the Gregg family served their country in these wars:

French and Indian	Robert Gregg
Revolutionary	both Robert and son Samuel
War of 1812	Henry Gregg
Texas Revolution	John Gregg
Civil War	Numerous, most in Confederate Army. Lafayette in Union Army

What means of transportation did the Greggs and others use in this migration to the west? It has afforded me hours of pleasure to speculate. It is most likely the earlier movements were made on the Great Wagon Road which was in use from Philadelphia through Lancaster, York and Gettysburg, PA. into Maryland and through the Shenandoah Valley down into the Carolinas to Augusta, GA. From the period after the 1740s, the road branched and went through the Cumberland Gap and was used by the early settlers in areas that were to become Tennessee and Kentucky. Most of these roads had been Indian trails and in more modern times became U.S. highways.

The move from Greene County to Roane County, TN was likely made by riverboat as could have been done to Lawrence County, AL by using the Tennessee River. Was this mode of transportation also used to Washington County, AR - via Tennessee River to Ohio River, thence to Mississippi River, down that river to the Arkansas, up the Arkansas River to Fort Smith, then overland to Fayetteville? The riverboats continued onto Fort Gibson, Indian Territory at that time.

I have spent some twenty years searching Gregg and other of my family lines. Part II will trace the related family of Cardwell. Much needs to be done in research. Hopefully, others will add to this.

From the FAMILY ALBUM of ROBERT PHELAN

Maude Hannah Phelan, daughter of Abijah Taylor and Hannah Catherine Rogers Phelan, mother of Ardys Moore Crapo. She was borne March 6, 1881 5 miles southeast of Fayetteville, married John Q. Moore, and died September 21, 1960.

The photos on these pages following are from the family album of Robert Phelan who has kindly allowed us to copy them. The Phelan families, according to Ardys M. Crapo, another WCHS member, have been in Washington County for five generations at least, beginning with Thomas Phelan, a Revolutionary War veteran, who is buried here.

This is a family group on a picnic in the fall of 1912. In back, left to right, the woman with crossed arms is Margaret Phelan, widow of James Larkin Phelan. Next is Martha Elizabeth Phelan Jones, then Ella Phelan, wife of James (Jim) Larkin Phelan. The small child is Rufus Phelan. Next is his father Jim. Next is John Milas Phelan. He is holding Chester Harp. In the next row the boy with big tie is Marvin Harp. Little girl is unknown. In back center, little girl in arms is Pearl Fagley. Then Florence Phelan, Dolly Phelan, Denver Phelan, children of Jim and Ella Phelan. Seated is Charley Jones; standing in center is his wife Lavada Jones. Front row: Cousin from Washington with her child. Next is Sam Jones, Alice Niccum and her son

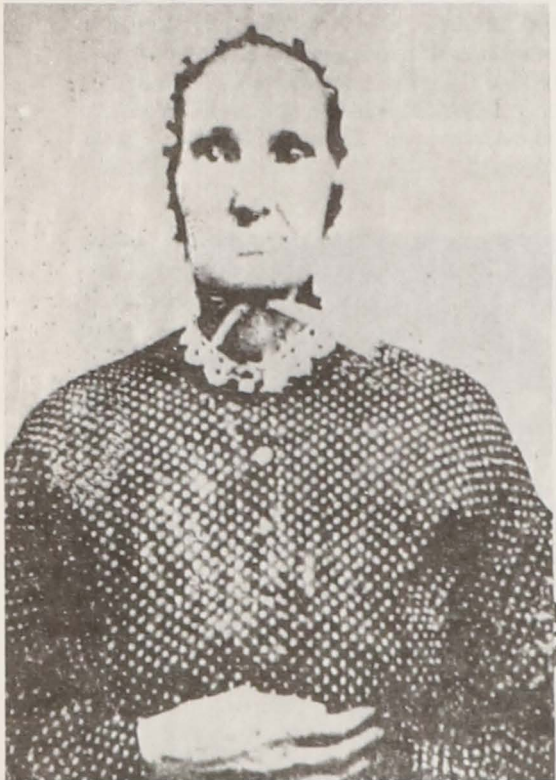
This photo, taken in 1920 at the old Wallen home northeast of West Fork, is of the Dempsey Wallen family. Wallen was a Confederate soldier who received a bullet wound in tbe leg at the battle of Pea Ridge. The wound became infected and have him trouble for the rest of his life. He and his wife Rebecca, both seated, came here after the war from Tennessee. She was a Knox prior to her marriage, and the city of Knoxville was named after her parents. The Wallens arrived in this area with a wagon and two oxen, one cow, and a few chickens.

Left to right: Standing - Dick Wallace, Robert Phelan, his mother Rebecca Jane Phelan, and her sister Lottie Wallace. Front row - Fred Wallace, Frank Phelan, Bert Phelan, Leroy Phelan and Esther Phelan. Four of the group -Robert, Frank, Leroy and Esther - are still living in January 1983. Bert died December 14, 1975 and is buried in California. Fred Wallace (left front) was a soldier stationed on Corregidor when the Japanese attached and was never heard from again. Robert Phelan was twelve years old when the picture was taken.

Robert Phelan at the old Mountain Street Conoco Station, his first servic station. Photo taken about 1942.

George. Holding George is his father Cliff Niccum. Margaret Phelan was the mother of John Phelan and the grandmother of Marvin and Chester Harp. Ellen Phelan Harp was dead at the time of the picture. Martha Elizabeth Jones is the daughter of Thomas and Sarah Phelan and the mother of Sam and Charley Jones. The James (Jim) Larkin Phelan pictured is named for grandfather of Robert Phelan, James Larkin Phelan, who was dead at the time of the picture. (Note by Robert Phelan: In November of 1979 I know of only four of these people still living: Florence Phelan, Denver Phelan, Marvin Harp, and Alice Niccum.)

This is a picture of four generations of the Phelan family, taken in 1897. Back row: Margaret Phelan, her daughter Sarah Frances Phelan Vines, and Richard Phelan, brother of Margaret. The little girl is Bertha Vines, b. Feb. 11, 1894, daughter of Sarah Frances Vines. As of May 15, 1981 she was still living in Fayetteville. Sitting is great-grandmother Frances Phelan, mother of Margaret and Richard, and widow of Jeremiah Phelan. She was born in 1813, died March 30, 1903, and was buried in Sunset Cemetery. Margaret, Frances and Richard are buried at Baptist Ford. The other children of Margaret are: John Milas, Joe Sire Richard, William Henry (my father) and Deliah Ellen. They are buried at Baptist Ford Cemetery. (By Robert Phelan.)



Hannah Sutton Phelan, wife of Richard Phelan; great-grandmother of Ardys Moore Crapo.

POPULATION PATTERNS IN WASHINGTON COUNTY - 1829

By Jerry Hinshaw

The second census in the Arkansas Territory was taken in 1829 to be reported the following year, and the enumerators showed 30,388 people in the territory, a 114% increase over that reported in 1820. The writer could find no details on the enumeration in Washington County in 1820, but did discover a breakdown by sex, age, and race for the county in 1830. This information is from Box XIX of the Small Manuscript Section, Arkansas Historical Commission, One Capitol Mall, Little Rock 72201.

It gives an insight into the social character of the county before statehood:

Free White Males:	Of 21 years	221
	45 and up	39
	18 under 45	149
	under 18	278
	Total Free White Males	466
White Females:	14 and up	215
	under 14	253
	Total White Females	278
Grand Total	Free Whites	744
	Free Coloreds and Blacks	1
Slaves:	45 and up	2
	16 and under 45	26
	10 and under 16	15
	Under 10	41
	Total Slaves	84
Total Populations		829

There were certainly few families with both parents living because of the very small number of females 14 or older. Girls generally married by age 18 during that period, often by age 16, but seldom by age 14. Assuming 15 of the 25 white women 14 years and over were married and had children, they could not have given birth to an average of 17 children each. We must assume that many wives had died in childbirth or from the rigors of frontier life and that the fathers headed single parent families.

It will surprise some that ten percent of the total population was slave. These were probably domestic servants as the number would be only two per white male over 45 years of age.

The grouping by age could indicate that a young man, 18 years of age, was considered an adult, that a 16-year-old slave was an adult "field hand" or domestic, and that a white girl 14 years of age was considered an adult. If not, the grouping by age has no logic.

Lastly, the white population was growing rapidly because 71 percent of the people were teenagers or younger. Washington County was then, as now, one of the fastest growing counties and one of the most populous in the state. It clearly began with a very few hardy pioneers.

THE NEWTONS OF EARLY WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS (WHO WAS NAOMA NEWTON?)

By Earl F. Arnett

In the 1830 Federal Census for the Arkansas Territory, among the residents of the newly created Washington County were the following:

Larkin Newton,	male aged 30/40
	male aged 15/20
	female, aged 15/10
Naoma Newton,	male aged 5/10
	female aged 10/15
	female aged 10/15
	female aged 70/80

Much is known about Larkin Newton, but very little is definite about the quite old woman who was Naoma Newton. It is about these persons with whom we are concerned in this article. This story has added interest because of the possible connections with Revolutionary War history in South Carolina and definite connections with the War of 1812 in Tennessee.

In early years of Washington County (i.e. 1829-1850), there were several Newtons. Usually they were found either in the Cane Hill area or near Fayetteville. Some were close associates of the Blairs, the Carnahans, the Billingsleys and the Wilsons. Such associations probably antedated their lives in Arkansas. Of these Newtons, there were at least two distinct family groups.

1. Samuel Newton and his family, of Cane Hill, missionary to the Osage Indians, and teacher at Cane Hill.
2. Larkin Newton, first county clerk of Washington County, and his relations.

It is the second family with which we are concerned here.

Larkin Newton was born in South Carolina in 1794. He was the middle of three brothers, the other being John (the older) and Bazilla (the younger). From a study of South Carolina records for the period between 1770 and 1800, it is believed by the author, but not proven, that the parents of these three brothers were John Newton, Revolutionary War sergeant, and his second wife Namo (also spelled Neomy, etc.) whose surname is uncertain. The home of these people was in Newberry and/or Edgefield County, SC. Sgt. John Newton was of Virginia origin, thought to have been primarily in Caroline County. At some time in his Virginia years he met and married Mary Mitchell, most likely about 1770 when John would have been about twenty years old. The marriage may have taken place in Granville County, NC, as the Mitchells have been traced there from Virginia on their eventual way to SC. Isaac Mitchell and Sarah Satterwhite were the parents of Mary, first wife of Sgt. John Newton. Mary Mitchell Newton died sometime during the 1780s and John married, for the second time, the above-mentioned Naomi. The 1790 census of SC shows John and Naomi to have a family of three boys and five girls, which indicates that Naomi had been previously married to someone else and came to John Newton with a ready-made family. At least two of the boys in this family can be identified as sons of Sgt. John by his first wife, but the third boy and the girls remain in question. Thèse latter are believed not to be children by his first wife Mary.

The Revolutionary War records in South Carolina relative to John Newton are complicated by the fact that there were two Sgt. John Newtons in the conflict. And one of these has been given a sort of immortality through the pen of Parson Weems (of George Washington and the cherry tree legend). This Sgt. John Newton is described as being a hero in the First South Carolina Regiment, a true buddy of noted Sgt. William Jasper in the troops under the overall command of General Francis Marion. Such claims have been disputed by several later authors (as noted in the American Heritage magazine, Vol. X, No. 1). However, despite such disclaimers we find all across America today the tribute to Sgt. John Newton and Sgt. William Jasper in obvious evidence in the names of the many places, i.e. counties and towns. For instance, just north of Washington County, in Missouri, there are counties named Newton and Jasper - side by side - in tribute to these legendary heroes. (More about Newton County, MO later.)

But the Sgt. John Newton of Newberry County, SC, husband of Naomi, was in the Second South Carolina Regiment and under a different general command than the preceding. It is known that the other Sgt. John Newton was captured by the British at Charleston in 1780, put on a prison ship rampant with smallpox, to which disease he soon succumbed. By contrast, our Sgt. John Newton died in Edgefield County, SC in 1799, leaving widow Naomi to settle his estate. This settlement, without benefit of any will, is made by 1801, and Naomi disappears from available records in South Carolina. It is with these folk that I believe Larkin Newton and his relations to be connected.

The next records which identify Larkin Newton and his older brother John are to be found in Tennessee - Rutherford County - in 1810. From this

locale, both Larkin and John served in the War of 1812. John Newton served in 1812 in the campaign against the Creek Indians as a First Sergeant under the command of Col. Thomas Benton and Capt. James McFerrin. Larkin Newton served in 1814 as a Sergeant in the unit of Col. John Cocke and Captain George Barnes; he was with Andrew Jackson at New Orleans. It was here in Tennessee that Larkin and John Newton lived until 1815, during which time John married Jane Blair, daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Carnahan) Blair. These Blairs had come to Logan County, Kentucky before 1800 from Guilford County, NC and had been engaged along with the Billingsleys, Garvins and others in the great religious revival of those days which led to the formation of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church at Dickson, TN a bit later. This association with this church was maintained by some members of the Newton family for many years in Arkansas, Missouri, and Texas.

In 1815 the Blairs and the Newtons were living near one another on Cripple Creek, a branch of the Stones River in the eastern section of Rutherford County, TN. It was the fall of the year, and Larkin Newton had just been mustered out of the military. He still had some service pay coming to him from the state of Tennessee and he left a power of attorney with a law firm in Nashville to collect that pay. Two, perhaps three, keel boats had been made and these were put into the Stones River, several families embarking for Arkansas, then a Territory on the western frontier. Down the Cumberland River to the Ohio, to the Mississippi, and by way of the White River cutoff to the Arkansas and northwest to Crystal Hill the trip was made. At the same time, some of the men were bringing horses and cattle by land. Apparently the trip was made safely: an account written in 1884 by Elbert C. Newton, son of John and Jane Blair Newton, gives a terse story of these travels. This account may be found among the unpublished papers of Myra McAlmont Vaughn of Washington County, which papers now reside at the Arkansas Archives in Little Rock.

This migration of the Newtons and the Blairs had been preceded by those of related Pyeatts, Carnahans and Billingsleys in 1811-12. In some accounts of this early history, Jacob Pyeatt is credited with being in Arkansas as early as 1807. I question this date since Alabama records (Missippippi Territory) show related folks to be there in 1810. These were those dedicated Cumberland Presbyterians in search of new lands. Among them was the Rev. John Carnahan, brother of Sarah Carnahan Blair, and it is to him that credit for preaching the first Protestant sermon in the Arkansas Territory is given. A brief quotation from the memoirs of Elbert C. Newton (1884) will serve to tell of the arrival of the Newtons and Blairs at Little Rock in 1815:

"The boats made the trip safely. They went up the White River - the cutoff - and through that to the Arkansas. At the Post there were some settlements. The next at Pine Bluff, then to Little Rock. No house there except one round log house just below the Rock, unoccupied. A Mr. Wright Daniel was living on the north side of the river."
(Elbert C. Newton thinks Wright Daniel's widow married James Pyeatt after he became a widower.)

This does not picture Little Rock as a booming frontier town in 1815. Newton goes on to say that the home of John and Jane Blair Newton was eight miles north of Little Rock up the river. This location is further described as being "on the McHenry Farm above Crystal Hill". In his book *Pioneers and Makers of Arkansas* Shinn tells in some detail of Thomas Willoughby Newton (no relation) and only mentions John Newton in passing: "Before Thomas W. Newton, Sr. was registered in Arkansas there was a man named John Newton living in Pulaski County on the north side of the river. He was a man of family, seems to have had an estate." (p. 194) Shinn also mentions Larkin and Basil Newton on Crawford County in 1821, but mistakenly thinks these two might be sons of John Newton; actually they were brothers.

John and Jane Blair Newton came to Arkansas with one child, Elbert C. Soon were added four more: Telitha (1816), Charles (1818), Elizabeth (1820) and Asa R. (1822). Charles died as an infant. In November 1822 disaster struck in the form of epidemic disease (malaria ?, yellow fever ?) Within two weeks, both Jane Blair Newton and husband John died. This left four orphan children with a grandfather (Thomas Blair) and two uncles (Larkin and Basil Newton) to take care of them. A few weeks earlier, their grandmother, Sarah Carnahan Blair, had also died. In his will (see photocopy), John Newton, still a young man of only 32/33 years, gives the bedding and some household goods to the daughters and asks that his brothers Larkin and Basil care for these children. This they certainly did, especially Larkin, who along with grandfather Thomas Blair raised the four children to adult life.

In John Newton's will there is no mention of land. The accounts by Margaret Smith Ross of Little Rock and Pulaski County do not identify any land in John Newton's name, although there are references to land owned by some of his contemporaries. I suppose that many of the earliest settlers were in fact "squatters". Land does not show up in the names of both Larkin and Basil Newton. It is stated by Shinn (p. 194) that they had land in Crawford County and that the first county affairs were carried out in their "storehouse". In the Arkansas Territorial Papers it is shown that both Larkin and Basil had preemption rights for land (320 acres each ?) as they were among those moved about 1826 from Cherokee Lands (e.g. the Lovely Purchase). Basil Newton chose to remain in Crawford County on Big Creek, south of the River and later court records show that he had to defend his occupation against conflicting claims by others, even after he had put substantial improvements on the land. It must have been at this time that Larkin Newton chose to move north, away from the river lowlands to Washington County, or what was to become that county.

At this time (i.e. 1827) Basil (Bazilla) Newton chose to remain in Crawford County and moved south of the Arkansas River near to what was then Crawford Court House. Some years later he married a Miss Edmondson, sister of James Edmondson, and they were the parents of four children: Benjamin H., Amanda, Thomas, and Cocker. By 1845 Basil Newton was dead; his wife must have died shortly thereafter. In 1815 the

children were under the care of a Mary Campbell. The oldest son, Benjamin H., left Arkansas to go to Georgia before the Civil War. Then he married a cousin, Amanda Caroline Edmondson, served in the Confederate army and lived there. Descendants of Benjamin Hardin Newton live today in Little Rock and in California.

Much has been written about the Crystal Hill community of early Pulaski County, among which were the Newtons. The high rate of disease has been noted as one primary reason many moved from there to higher ground, away from the river. In 1827-28 it was time for the Billingsleys, Pyeatts and Carnahans to make the move from Crystal Hill to Cane Hill. Larkin Newton, Thomas Blair and his sons (Jesse M. and Jonathan), and the orphan children of John and Jane Blair Newton also made this move. Here they became some of the staunchest members of the Cane Hill Cumberland Presbyterian Church founded in 1828. The Rev. Jesse M. Blair served as the first minister of this church (1828-36), lived his life at Cane Hill, only to be killed by Union soldiers during the Civil War. The Rev. Jonathan Blair later moved to Missouri (ca 1834) and even later (ca 1857) to California. Elbert C. Newton, oldest son of John and Jane Blair Newton was baptized into the Cane Hill C.P. Church as a 17-year-old (i.e. 1831) and this began a lifelong dedication to this church in Arkansas, Missouri and Texas.

Larkin Newton married Mary Ann Wilson, daughter of John Wilson, the surveyor, in 1829. Shinn says this was in Hempstead County. Their home in Washington County was in Prairie Township and it was in this location that we find both Larkin Newton and the older lady, Naoma Newton in 1830. In these two households lived the orphan children of John and Jane Blair Newton. Elbert C. Newton is listed as living with uncle Larkin, while the other three: Telitha, Betsy and Asa R. are found in the household of Naoma. Naoma Newton is shown to be between 70 and 80 years of age, and it seems a reasonable conclusion that she was the grandmother of the orphan children of John and Jane and so the mother of Larkin Newton. But this has not been proven. However, it does lead to the very interesting speculation as follows:

When Sgt. John Newton (1750-1799) of Newbery and/or Edgefield County, SC, died in 1799 there, he left a widow named Naomi (also spelled Neomy) who was his second wife. One knows this situation to be a fact from a personal account written by Isaac Newton of SC, third son of Sgt. John by his first wife Mary Mitchell. John and Naomi Newton lived in Edgefield County for about eight years prior to his death and in the 1790 census shows children in their family who could not have been by the first wife. It is my belief that one of the boys was John Newton, b. ca 1789 in SC, who was my great-great-grandfather. Sgt. John Newton left no will and not much of an estate. Widow Naomi, along with two commissioners, settled the estate, including the auction of personal goods and thereafter Naomi Newton disappears from all South Carolina records. At about this time there was a mass migration west to Tennessee which saw many related folk from South Carolina settle in middle Tennessee, i.e. Maury, Davidson, Rutherford, Bedford, etc. counties. It is possible that Naomi Newton with her minor

children was among those who made this migration and that Naomi was living with a relative as head of some household, unidentified as of now. If this were so, then it would explain the presence of John, Larkin, and Basil Newton in Rutherford County, TN in 1810. It would further explain how John Newton from South Carolina met and married Jane Blair of North Carolina in Tennessee. This train of possible events then would link Naomi (Neomy) Newton, age ca 45 in 1799 in Edgefield County, SC, with Naoma Newton, age 70-80 in Washington County, Arkansas in 1830. This is the "mystery" of Naoma Newton of Washington County.

Larkin Newton and Naoma Newton continued to live in Washington County AR until 1834, a rather short time indeed. But Larkin was very much involved in affairs of that new county. He was the first County Clerk. He, along with Lewis Evans, Samuel Vaughn and John Woody, laid out the town of Fayetteville. He was the first postmaster of Fayetteville while also operating a grist mill (see Arkansas Sentinel, June 14, 1882). He resigned this last post in December, 1833 just prior to moving north to then Barry County, Missouri. So, while Larkin Newton was leaving his mark upon the affairs of the young county of Washington, his mother (?) Naoma and his nieces and nephews were growing up just west of Fayetteville. Unfortunately, the very earliest records of Washington County (1829-35) seem to be missing or scarce, and the exact location of their homes is in doubt. The records and land plats published by Mr. Lloyd McConnell show no Newton in the county. It is probable that they lived near to John Rankin Billingsley, whose land does show up on the records in Prairie Township.

The Newtons (Larkin and Naoma) moved in 1834 to Missouri where Larkin was once again in the midst of forming a new county, this time named "Newton". Larkin Newton had become by 1839 a county judge, and he, with other pioneers of that day, established the county with the county seat at Neosho. Larkin, along with nephews Elbert C. and Asa R. Newton, became early land owners in an area northeast of Neosho. Roads were laid out; many others moved in from the east, and the area became a prosperous community. A Cumberland Presbyterian Church (New Salem) was established. Elbert C. Newton was an officer in this church; his wife Sara was with him and his associations with the old friends - Billingsleys, Blairs, Ross', etc. were continued.

There is some controversy about the origin of the county name "Newton". It seems definite that it was in tribute to some Revolutionary War hero, and that he was Sgt. John Newton of SC. Nowhere in the records, though, is it clear just how this may have related to Larkin and Naoma Newton. It seems reasonable to me to believe that Larkin Newton, in 1839 an important official of the county, must have had some influence on the choice of that name. As is customary, this affair has been linked with the legend by the Rev. Parson Mason Weems that it was Sgt. John Newton, buddy of Sgt. William Jasper, in the troops of General Francis Marion, the "Swamp Fox", who was being honored. I think there may be some question about this connection. Under any circumstances, Larkin Newton, Elbert C. Newton, and Asa R. Newton (my great-grandfather) left their mark upon

Newton County, MO. The old lady, Naoma Newton, died sometime after 1840 there, and her grave must be somewhere near to the Hickory Creek lands that the Newtons owned. So far, her exact place of burial has not been established. In 1847, despite good times, the lure of new lands apparently became strong again, and the Newtons moved on, lock, stock and barrel, to Texas. It was the offerings of the Peters Colony in the vicinity of Dallas that brought this move.

While Texas was still a Republic, two large grants of land were made covering millions of acres around what would now be called northeast Texas, but was then (1845) called "the northwest". These were grants to the Peters Colony and to the Mercer Colony. After Texas became a state in 1846, these grants were continued in force, although many disputes arose in subsequent years. This land was advertised widely in the north and east, and drew many settlers from many distant places. Among these were our Newtons, the Billingsleys, the Powers, and others of Newton County, MO. When these folk sold their lands in Missouri it is said that some received their money in gold. Asa R. Newton, as a young single man had gone to Texas as early as 1844. Perhaps he was spying out new land. Anyway, the gold from his land in Newton County, MO was carried to Texas in his boots. Apparently he made the trip without trouble, for soon he and his brother Elbert C. had become established on land about eight miles north and west of Waxahachie. Their uncle, Larkin Newton, took up his section of land a bit farther west near Midlothian. As usual, Larkin was soon immersed in civic duties. From the woods on his land he took logs to build a cabin about 20 feet square, complete with fireplace. In this adobe he and Mary Ann raised a family of eleven children. His original cabin has been preserved and today rests on land east of Midlothian where it was restored. Larkin Newton died in 1858 and his wife Mary Ann (Wilson) died in 1876. Both were 64 years of age when they died. They are buried at the Newton Cemetery southwest of Midlothian, TX on land owned by Larkin. He has been described by one descendant as not having a lazy bone in his body, and I think that description very apt. He and Mary Ann raised the following children:

Line (or Jane) Ann, b. 1830, AR, m. Charles Neely
Amanda, b. 1832, AR or Mo, m. Marcellus T. Hawkins
John, b. 1834, MO, m. Lorinda Wilson
Elizabeth, b. 1836, MO, m. Thomas B. Harris
Zilpha, b. 1840, MO, m. William F.D. Burnett
James Wilson, b. 1842, MO, m. Annie Lucretia Hinkley
Mary F., b. 1844, MO, m. John W. Hawkins
Hulda J., b. 1846, MO, never married
Thomas L., b. 1849 (?), MO or TX, m. Rhoda A. Vinson
T. (1860 census), b. 1852, TX, m. ???

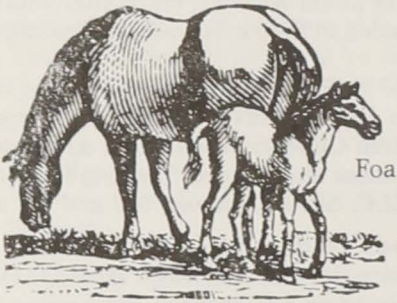
This seems an adequate tribute to these Newtons who started their married life in Washington County, AR.

Elbert C. Newton became in Texas the typical staunch Cumberland Presbyterian that he had been in Arkansas and Missouri. He was one of the founding members of the Shiloh C.P. Church just south of Ovilla, TX in

1847. This church is still very active today. He was married three times: (1) Sarah ? in AR; (2) Maria White in TX, and (3) Sarah King (widow of Rev. Finis E. King) in TX. He moved about 1880 from Ellis County, TX to Hill County nearby and finally to Faord County, TX where it is assumed he dièd after 1890. It was Elbert C. Newton who visited his Arkansas friends in Dover in 1884 and who related the migration of his parents from Tennessee to Arkansas in 1815. He was a friend of John Robert Homer Scott, Arkansas historian.

Asa Richardson Newton, my great-grandfather, thrived for some years on lands north of Waxahachie, TX. During his early life there is no evidence that he was ever the dedicated churchman that his older brother was. But he was baptized as an adult into the Shiloh C.P. church in Ellis County, TX. However, this affiliation ended in disaster. In 1869 Asa R. was "churched", meaning expelled, because he did some work on a Sunday and never attended church. It seems that a bear was raiding his barn on a Sunday morning. Asa killed that bear and put up the meat for future meals for the family. But he never got to church. From this experience there grew a bitterness that did not quite heal. Soon after Asa and his wife, Mary (Powers), moved to Kaufman County nearby where they lived out their lives. Mary Powers Newton had been one of the founding members of the Shiloh C.P. Church and she maintained her affiliation with the church at Forney, TX. But Asa and some of his children never became members of any church. Asa R. Newton died in 1871 and is buried in the Gilkey/Sheltman cemetery near Forney. His wife died in 1901 and is buried in the cemetery at the Shiloh C.P. Church near Ovilla, TX.

Your Editors Ain't



Foaling Around.
They're begging
for interesting stories
to put in FLASHBACK

An Additional QUERY

Mrs. E. M. Cammack, 362 E. Laurel Street, Oxnard, CA 93033 is searching for information of Martha HIDE or HYDE SMITH, born between 1828 and 1830 in Robertson County, TN. Married John Smith 22 Jan. 1846 in Johnson Co., IL. Came to Arkansas soon after.

How can I be Nostalgic
when I can't Remember Anything?

QUERIES

Virginia Threet, 1875 South Custer Lane, Fayetteville, AR 72701 is researching her family tree and would enjoy having some help on the following couples: Hall-Wells, Powell-Creek, Gabbard-Smith, Bowman-Gentry, Herrington-Williams, Duncan-Cannady, Herrington-Mills.

Gene Marie Williams, SRB-Box 7470, Palmer, Alaska 99645 would like information on Levi HIBBARD and Amelia Elen FIDLER who were married 16 May 1880, both of Boonsboro, Washington County. They had two children: Maggie Isabel Hibbard, b. April 1881, and Harve Alvin Hibbard, b. 29 October 1883 in Fayetteville. In 1900 census, the children were living with an aunt and uncle, Enine and Mary (Fidler) SMITH in Logan County. What happened to Amelia and Levi?

Frances McKim, 6420 Aztec, ElPaso TX 79925 is looking for information on Sarah HOLCOMB and family. Date of birth 10 Sept. 1868 in Arkansas, believed West Fork. Married Joseph Garrett YORK (my father) 3 April 1886. They had three children (my half brothers and sisters). Need her death date and place, also her family. Her great-great-grandchildren need this information, please.

Nathiel Kraemer, 21816 South McBurney Road, Beavercreek, OR 97004 needs place of birth and parents of David WILLIFORD, b. ca 1797 NC. He married (2nd) 7 August 1845 in Fayetteville, AR Rebecca WALDON, widow of ? Waldon. What was her maiden name? Also need death date and burial place of David Williford. He d. after 1860 census and before 1870 census. He resided in Prairie Township, Washington County, Arkansas.

Mary Welsh Fincher, 4247 N. E. Totem Place, Bremerton, WA 98310 is looking for information on William KING, father of George W. King. George W. married Tennessee COMBS. They had a daughter named Indiana. Information on Tennessee also needed. Looking for information on the SCHRABLE, SCHROBLE, SRABLE name, NC and AR area.

Woodrow DeVere Oxford, 14 Bay Drive, South Laguna Beach, CA 92677 would like information on the following: Abel OXFORD, b. ca 1770-1780, Catawba, NC, listed on 1830 census, Washington County, AR (one age 50-60 male, one age 50-60 female, two 5-10, one 10-15, one 15-20 sons, one 5-10 daughter.) Jacob Oxford, b. 12-28-1801, NC, d. 8-29-1872 Oxford Bend, Washington Co., AR; children - Lucinda, b. 1824-25 McNair Co. TN; William D. (Dock), b. 1830 TN; Willis, b. 1833 Washington Co., AR; (all following b. in AR) Thompson, James, Louisa, Loueza, Avy, John W., Jacob Jackson, Joshua G. Isaac Wesley, Elizabeth, Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Lafayette and Mary Narcissa (Molly). We don't know Abel's or Jacob's first wives, but we think Abel was Jacob's father. Jacob homesteaded in Goshen (Oxford Bend) about 1830. Surely would like to know more about Abel.

Pictured above is a reunion of Civil War Veterans, held at Mayfield, Washington County, AR in the late 1800's. The original is in the possession of Darrell Tisdale, postmaster at Goshen, AR. Further information about any of these men would be welcomed by Ye Editor.
Top row, l. to r. - Hammet, Tom Cannon, Tom Joyce, Ed Morris, unknown.
Middle row, l. to r. - "Cap" William Henry Harrison Villiard, Abilene "Reb" Gayer, "Doc" Phillips, John Oxford.
Bottom row, l. to r. - Lijah Mayfield, John McClure, Addison Gibbs, Captain Hunley Bennett

The Madison County Genealogical and Historical Society has just finished a major effort to locate pre-1931 Madison County newspapers. From this has come the realization of just how many issues still have not been located. The Society would like to borrow any pre-1931 issues of the following newspapers so they may be microfilmed at the University of Arkansas. Please contact the Madison County Genealogical and Historical Society at P.O. Box 427, Huntsville, AR 72740 if you have copies of any of the following:

Madison County Record
Madison County Democrat
Huntsville Republican
The (Huntsville) Democrat
St. Paul Republican
St. Paul Mountain Air
North Arkansas Democrat
Marble City Sentinel
The (Pettigrew) Journal

"The Faggot Gatherer" taken in 1928.

BEAUTY IN THE COMMONPLACE:

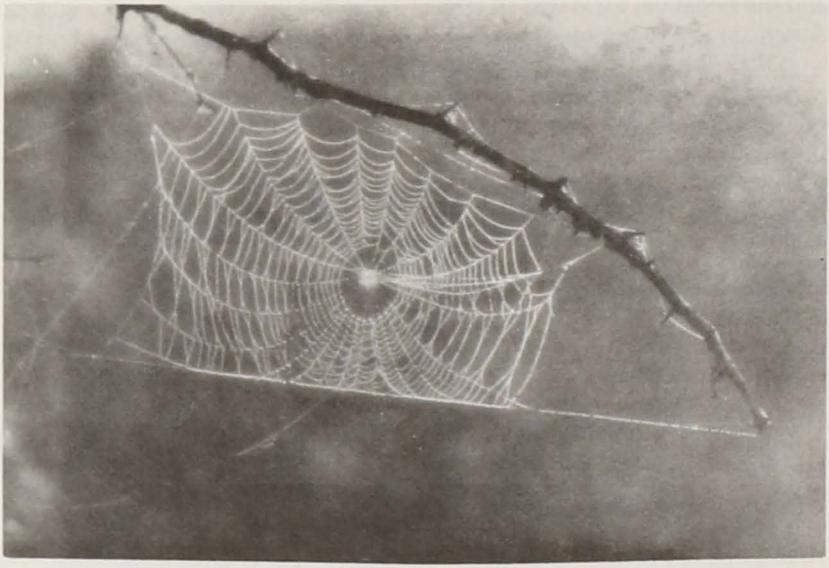
J.H.Field, Art Photographer, 1869-1936

by Bob Besom and Lonnie Roach

"Prizes in themselves don't mean much to me. The big thrill comes when they hang my pictures in the exhibits," J. H. Field told a writer for *American Magazine* in 1928. By then, Field was at the height of his career. He had won over 300 prizes in state, national, and even international competitions beginning with his first award in Wisconsin before the turn of the century. He was already well known among America's art photographers when he moved to Fayetteville in 1913.

During his lifetime, Field's work was frequently recognized in national magazines. His hard work, innovative spirit, patience, and his ability to find beauty in ordinary things were most often mentioned. According to the editor of the *Bulletin of Photography* (June 1926), Field was a devoted artist who understood that he had to be patient and wait on nature to capture the "instant, which if grasped, is the best and only one for a perfect picture." "For one success, there are fifty failures," Field acknowledged. "Here is a man whose enthusiasm for fine work takes him out before dawn to catch the first lighting of fairy dew-beads on a cobweb!" said the editor. An article in *Good Housekeeping* (November 1922) said of Field; "To him beauty is the one worth-while thing in life, and because so many seem to miss it, his mission is to make for them, on sensitive plate behind the lens he always carries in a light pack upon his back, record of what he sees: the halo of beauty

about a flower, the silent coming of evening, the mysterious hush of mid-day, wind in the tree-tops, the hurry of storm-clouds, peace of still pools, a spider's web all wet with dew."



"Nature's Jewels," one of several spider web photos featured in Lessie String Fellow Read's article "Fairy Weavers", Nov. 1922, Good Housekeeping Magazine.

The Fields were attracted to northwest Arkansas by the writings of another migrant to the area, the writer William R. Lighton. Lighton's article, "The Story of an Arkansas Farm", which appeared in the *Saturday Evening Post* in January in 1910, intrigued the Fields and contributed to their decision to relocate to Fayetteville in 1913. There they established a studio on the town square.

J. H. Field is remembered as a small man with brownish-red hair and a red moustache. Friends of the family such as Mrs. W. T. Cravens of Rogers, Ladd Davies of Morrilton, and Clark Whelan of Tampa, Florida, still remember him as "retiring", "quiet", "patient", "thoughtful", and "reserved". His quiet nature may have been due partly to the fact that he was hard of hearing most of his life. People who knew him invariably remember, as well, a keen sense of humor.

Field did not limit himself to landscape and nature photography. He won several prizes for his warm and sensitive portrait studies and some of his most famous pictures were of buildings, including a filling station which a friend mistook for a Grecian temple (*American Magazine*, December 1928).

The artist made his reputation with a "soft lens" approach to his subjects at a time when most photo-artists were seeking sharp clarity in their prints. He was very innovative in his search for the soft look. The *American*

Magazine article of 1928 discussed his experimentation. Sometimes he hit the tripod during an exposure, or printed a picture from the back of the negative, or placed celluloid, cloth or tissue paper between the print paper and the negative. Field was so effective with the "soft lens" that the editor of *American Photography* magazine in December 1920 could think of no one who was "more a master of its possiblities."

After his death in 1936, Field was not forgotten. In 1944, when Ralph Hudson surveyed "Art in Arkansas" for the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly*, Field was the only photographer he found who was "as much an artist as photographer." Admirers among his contemporaries and a small group of local historians have collected and valued his work over the years. The Shiloh Museum in Springdale recently presented an exhibit of Field's photographs, beginning with framed pictures borrowed from the walls of the historic Walker-Knerr-Williams House in Fayetteville owned by Dr. Franklin and Betty Williams, and also included pictures owned by Betty Lighton, Beth Rowden, and Ladd Davies, and a large collection held by the Washington County Historical Society. The largest and most important selection of prints came from his son, Dr. Burton Field of Dillwyn, Virginia.

Julius Herman Field was born February 19, 1869 in Waupun, Wisconsin. His parents were natives of Norway. After he completed his public schooling, young Field took up his father's occupation of carpentry. But, as his wife wrote: "It was dire necessity that he give up carpentry for photography. Always slight of build and frail of health, he found after a few years that carpentry in all kinds of weather in the rigorous Wisconsin climate was too much for his strength. So he began to look around, and this time the small town offered him a position in a photograph 'gallery'. Here for a year he learned the processes that go before a finished photograph—exposing and developing a negative, retouching, printing and finishing."

In 1984, Field borrowed $600.00, the asking price for a studio in Berlin, Wisconsin. He bought the business and hired a young woman, Minnie Bell Dies, to work for him. J. H. later married Miss Dies. Their only son, Burton, was born while they were in Berlin. Mrs. Field described her husband's development period: "By trying to do the best that was in him always, his work began to attract attention. It was about this time that his hearing began to fail and gradually grew worse. This left him much to himself and, always a lover of the out of doors, he spent his time out of business hours in the open."

Mrs. Field was a very important factor in the artist's success. She was his bookkeeper, lab technician, retoucher, and, as their son Burton Field remembers, the "official greeter" because J. H. could not hear well. Burton described his father as a "dreamer" while his mother had the "practical sense". Mrs Field was born March 16, 1879. She is remembered as a reserved but very pleasant and thoughtful person, exacting in everything she did, and interested in most anything.

The Field family income, while comfortable, was not large. Burton said that portraits were their "bread and butter" items. In 1933, the Fields semi-retired and bought a large two-story house at 735 West Dickson. The house

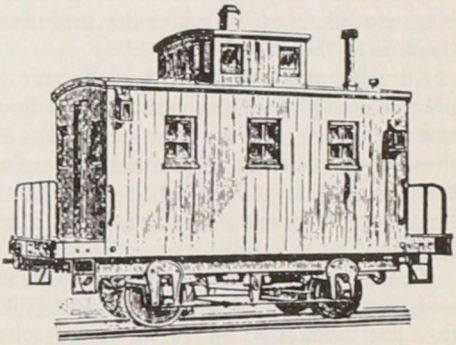
was across from the University of Arkansas and the couple supplemented their income by taking in student-boarders. Field died on January 14, 1936, after a series of heart attacks. His body was returned to Waupon, Wisconsin for burial.

Mrs. Field continued to sell her husband's photographs for a time after his death. She lived in Fayetteville until 1962. Due to the loss of her vision, she moved to Richmond, Virginia, where she lived with her son. She died there at the age of 92.

Mrs. Mimie Bell Field, the artist's wife, and their son, Burton, photo taken about 1915.

DON'T BE THE LAST

Put yourself on Track.
The editors want to
Railroad you into
Helping make FLASHBACK
more exiting with a
Personal Article about
Local History.



Don't get Sidetracked. Flag it for Action Today.

A NIGHT OF FLOOD AND FIRE IN WINSLOW

by Robert G. Winn

The month of February 1916 was unusually mild and wet. Rain fell almost constantly, or so it seemed to the residents of Winslow, Washington County, Arkansas. On the 25th of that month, the downpour that continued all day was just another day of rain. Every ditch and stream which carried water from the surrounding hills was overflowing. The terrain of this little town in the palm of the hollow was so steep that danger from rising water was so remote as to be unthinkable. With little concern about the 4 rampaging branches, workers at the end of the day waded to the protective shelter of their homes on the mountain sides.

Shortly after most people had retired for the night, the heavens opened with what must surely be the final drenching. Thunder and lightning were no novelties to dwellers in these mountains, but even the most sound sleepers were awakened by the heavy crashing of thunder and almost constant flashing of lightning. The storm passed, the lightning sent occasional flashes across the heavy clouds, and thunder rumbled dully in the distance.

Those who had been awakened by the storm were hardly asleep again when a more alarming sound aroused them suddenly back to wakefulness. The repeated firing of guns was the recognized signal of disaster or emergency. The accompany cries of "Fire! Fire!" sounded like a cruel hoax after the terrific downpour just experienced. The startled residents looked out upon an eerie sight. The lowering black clouds reflected and intensified a red glow that was visible from all parts of the town in the hollow and the surrounding mountaintops. Obviously this was a fire of great magnitude.

Nearby residents soon identified the burning building as the large warehouse that belonged to Cole-Land Mercantile Company on the west side of the railroad. The only fire fighting equipment available came from the willing hands of friends and neighbors. Without hesitation every man and boy became a volunteer. Water was everywhere underfoot. The rain had stopped completely and leaping flames shot from the roof of the already engulfed building. Light from the fire was reflected now, not only from the black clouds, but from a lake that engulfed the entire west side of town from the hills to the railroad.

All water rushing down the hills from the west converged from the two branches into one stream that must flow through a culvert beneath the railroad before reaching the creek on the east side. The excessive flow down these branches had risen so that it brought trash, leaves, and other debris to the mouth of the culvert which soon became blocked completely. The water had backed up until it reached the level of the railroad and flowed over the tracks to the east side.

The fire had not been discovered until the flames burned through the roof and shot skyward. The constant and brilliant light shining through his window had awakened Mr. H. M. Wright who had a clear vantage point where he could look down into town from his home in the Mountain Hotel on the

east of town. He had alerted the people by firing the guns and crying the alarm.

The Williams family who lived in the section house adjacent to the burning building had been sleeping on the far side and had not seen the light. The small Farmers' Union Building north of the warehouse was unoccupied at night. Since the warehouse could not be saved, attention was turned to rescuing the Williams family and keeping the section house and Farmers' Union Building from burning.

When Mr. Williams was awakened by the firing of the guns and saw the light, he started downstairs from the second floor bedroom. He found himself in three feet of water in the living room. Almost all the houses along the west side of the tracks had been built with floors lower than the railroad, without thought that the culvert might become blocked. The railroad now had become a dam and the entire west side of town was a lake behind it.

When Mr. Williams realized that their home was flooded and that Mrs. Williams could not lead the children to safety while he fought the fire, he gave his attention to carrying his wife and their four small children out of the endangered building. One glance toward the front and the railroad told him that this avenue of escape was impossible. The clogged culvert was directly in front of the section house and the water was 15 feet deep at this point. A walkway from the kitchen door to the cellar at the rear of the house was only a little lower than the floor of the house; thus by wading four feet of water he was able to carry each child and their mother to the cellar which was dug into the side of the hill. Waiting helpers on the hillside above lifted them to safety as each one reached up from the arms of the father. There was no danger that the water would rise any higher because, having reached the level of the railroad it flowed over the tracks and down the valley.

Volunteers who had now reached the floor of the burning warehouse were able to dash buckets of water onto the section house and Farmers' Union to prevent their catching. Fortunately, the night was calm with no wind to fan the leaping flames that shot straight upward. A strange sight it was to see men standing in three feet of water, dipping it up in buckets and dashing it upon the flaming walls around them. Some climbed to the roofs of nearby buildings to extinguish embers that fell there.

The owners of the Budd and Yoes stores were especially concerned about the horses stabled beneath their buildings. Each merchant owned a team used to deliver merchandise. Ary Adkins, manager of Budd's, reached the stable door under that store which was some two feet higher than Yoes place. Budd's horses were still able to keep their nostrils above water enough to breath and were rescued. As soon as this team was led out, it was turned loose to swim its way to higher ground. Mr. Adkins then attempted to rescue the horses that he knew were stabled beneath the Yoes store. A surge of water rushing down the hillside pinned him against the building where he clung until he was pulled to safety by someone in the store above. The entire space under the Yoes store was flooded and that team could not be saved.

Morning revealed a discouraging sight. As soon as workers could remove

the debris that had blocked the culvert, the water receded quickly, revealing thick layers of mud on the floor of the section house and business establishments. The floors of E. A. Budd, J. J. Yoes, J. F. Black, the Farmers' Union, and the Cole-Lane Lumber Yard were covered with several inches of the slimy ooze.

The cause of this unusual flood and fire was almost as unusual as the catastrophe itself. Speculation was that the water had risen on the floor of the warehouse, heating barrels of quick-lime stored there, and the heat from the lime had been intense enough to set fire to the bales of hay stored against the barrels.

Soon after, the Frisco Railroad Company raised the section house so that the floor was above the level of the tracks. A footbridge was constructed from the house to the street beside the tracks. The culvert was enlarged to carry any amount of water and debris that might reasonably be expected to run off the surrounding hills. Now in 1985, little damage would be done even if the water did back high enough to flood the entire area from the railroad to the hill. Most of the land has now been filled to track level. No buildings now stand where so much damage was done that night of flood and fire in 1916.

THE GOOD/BAD OLD DAYS

In the process of ripping out old cabinets to make room for file cases and bookshelves in the tenants' apartment at Headquarters House, we came across grocery slips which had fallen behind the cabinets in the spring of 1930 and rested there ever since. Here are some of the prices charged by

Cowen Grocery
"The Store of Service and Satisfaction"
Phone 64 - South Side Square

Lettuce . . . . . 10¢
Eggs . . . . . 25¢
Cheese . . . . . 10¢
Raisins . . . . . 15¢

The purchases were charged to an account which, on the 23rd of the month totaled $8.67!

I edit a newsletter by subscription ($12.00 yearly) published quarterly, known as "Bringle Branches" covering all branches of the Brengle/Brengle/Bringle/Pringle/Springle surname and its many allied lineages. The newsletter contains a free query column, heraldry, military records, abstracts, wills, deeds, ancestral charts, tombstone inscriptions, family history and pictures. Many Bringle ancestors are located in Washington County and Arkansas.

Charles Bringle 6619 Pheasant Road Baltimore, MD 21220

SKETCH OF THE EARLY HISTORY OF RADIO IN SPRINGDALE, ARKANSAS

By Robert H. Clark

Wireless communication, or radio as we know it today, in Springdale began around 1920 to the best of my knowledge. As youngsters in high school, several of us had read of the exploits of the Signal Corps in World War I and were reading magazines such as Popular Science, Radio News, etc. and experimenting with things electrical. The study of science and the encouragement of some fine teachers whetted our appetites to learn all we could about this new marvel of science.

My own interest in things electrical began when my dad, Robert C. Clark, gave me some dry batteries which had been damaged by one of the periodic floods in downtown Springdale. They came from his store, the Famous Hardware Company, which was then located at the northeast corner of Emma Avenue and Mill Street. I took the batteries home, connected them together with some baling wire and was thrilled to see the sparks fly when I rubbed two of the wires together. This interest grew and was responsible for my graduation from the University of Arkansas in Electrical Engineering and following that field for most of my career.

My two closest friends and associates of the early experiments were Donovan Youree who lived on Allen Street, near Shiloh, and Autry Joyce on Wilella Street near Huntsville Avenue. My home was on the southwest corner of Johnson Avenue and what is now U.S. Highway 71, which was then a dirt road. What little money we had to buy radio parts was usually earned picking strawberries for two cents a quart, and apples and peaches. So we improvised from miscellaneous junk scrounged mostly from the automotive shops that were then coming into existence, and elsewhere.

Examples were the Galena used in the early crystal receiving sets which came from the tailings of lead and zinc mines of southwest Missouri, and copper wire scrap from the construction of telephone lines and the wiring of houses for electricity. Tuning coils were often wound on oatmeal boxes. For sources of high voltage to create the electro-magnetic waves necessary to broadcast the Morse code signals, we used the ignition coils of the Model T Ford. Antennas were made of baling or other wire strung between the highest structures on our properties. I had a distinct advantage because we had a water system fed by a 30' high water tower, and a horse barn about 50' south on our lot. With my friends' help, we constructed a three-wire antenna between the two structures which was the envy of all radio "bugs" of the region. The three of us were so busy scrounging materials, equipment, and building the sending and receiving sets that we never took time to master the Morse code. Consequently, when we did try to communicate with each other, we would walk afterwards to a pre-arranged meeting place to compare notes because only one of us had a telephone at the time.

With the long and high antenna, I was able to reach out for some distance on receiving and was able to pick up KUOA in Fayetteville, operated by students and faculty of the Electrical Engineering Department of the University. Their transmitter used a rotary spark gap that imparted a musical tone to the spark signal, much more pleasant to hear than the rather raucous sound of the Fork spark coil. Their operators became expert in starting to transmit while rotary gap was picking up speed and closing their message as the gap slowed down. These produced sounds of varying pitch that added to the eerieness of the effect - particularly late at night when most of our listening was done.

Occasionally we would hear signals from quite a distance, such as the time signals from the Naval Observatory, Arlington, Virginia. These signals were most useful when electric clocks were first introduced into Springdale because for a short period in the 1920s our power system was interconnected with a line from Joplin for several hours each day. During those periods, which were usually from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m., our clocks gained about twenty minutes because the larger Joplin system operated on a higher frequency (62.5 Hertz). The uncertainty of the reception and the fact that our friends in Fayetteville had superior equipment led us to yearn for better also. Two of the fellows in Fayetteville who helped us greatly were Preston Smith and Lawrence Stinson, both of whom had distinguished careers in radio later on.

For Christmas 1921 I received a one-vacuum-tube receiver made by A. C. Gilbert, the maker of American Flyer toy trains. This greatly expanded our listening range and was the first vacuum tube receiver in town. My folks and other adults were very skeptical of our claims for the wonders of radio until one night I received music and voices from station KDKA from Pittsburgh, PA, the first such staion in the world and the first such reception in Springdale. I was so excited I failed to demonstrate the miracle to my Dad. However, I enticed him the next night into my attic workshop and let him hear a Madame Birch from Brazil singing operatic selections over KDKA, Pittsburgh. I can't vouch for what he heard because we had only one set of earphones.

Dad soon removed the earphones and asked, "Is there anything we can do so a roomful of people can hear?" I was well ahead of him, because my friends and I had been "drooling" over equipment catalogs from such companies at Tucker Duck and Rubber Co., and Newman Stern, the latter in Cleveland, Ohio. I told Dad that I could build a three-tube Armstrong regenerative set complete with a Magnavox horn-type loud speaker for about $250. He gave approval on the spot and I must admit that I slept very little that night. I went over and over in my mind just how the set would look.

It took about three months to secure the parts and complete construction of a "breadboard" model and test it. When Dad saw and heard it, he insisted that it deserved a much better setting, so he proceeded to have a beautiful solid walnut cabinet made for it. The set, when finished, had three tuning knobs and a volume control mounted on the black plastic

front panel which in turn formed the front of the walnut cabinet. It was a fine looking addition to our parlor in later years.

For the first several months, however, the set remained in my attic workshop near the antenna lead-in wire. News of the existence of the new marvel traveled fast. Many nights there were more visitors than our attic workshop could hold. The cooler autumn weather in 1922 not only reduced the ever-present natural static but also made comfortable sitting outdoors in the Clark's backyard and listening to the radio programs through the large Magnavox horn-speaker turned out through the window of my workshop. As many as 50 people attended these impromptu concerts at one time.

For the next few years the expansion of broadcasting stations and home receiving sets was explosive. J. Frank Deaver of the Pioneer Lumber Co. asked me to build a duplicate of our set and I complied, working in an upstairs room of his store in miserably hot weather in the summer of 1923. Simultaneously, my two close friends were building and testing the many new products flooding the markets. Some of the new broadcasting stations that came on the air were: WHB Kansas City, WSB Atlanta, WGN Chicago WLS Chicago, KVOO Tulsa, WFAA Dallas, and others in Hot Springs and Shreveport. The favorite big bands of the times were Guy Lombardo, Coon Sanders, Paul Whiteman, Ben Bernie, Rudy Vallee, Jan Garber, and many others. These bands had regular late night stands at major hotels but also went on tour. Some of the best known appeared at University of Arkansas dances.

All of the major radio stations vied with each other to see which could send their signal further, and to the most listeners. For example, one of the Chicago stations offered during a late-night braodcast in 1924 to send a box of candy to the first listener in each state who telegraphed the station. I telegraphed the next morning and in a few days received a box of Martha Washington chocolates, courtesy of Guy Lombardo. Some of the most popular programs were piano recitals by a life prisoner by the name of Harry Snodgrass, broadcast from Missouri State Prison by a station in Kansas City.

In the late 1920s, network broadcasting arrived and many stations were absorbed into the networks. Small manufacturing companies grew with the demand, were absorbed by the more aggressive companies or went out of business. The bugaboo of natural static (lightning) was largely eliminated by the immense increase in power of the broadcasting stations and the inventions of automatic volume control for receivers.

The study of electronics and radio as separate subjects came to the U. of A. about 1926 with the hiring of Asst. Prof. Loy E. Barton for the purpose. He moved to the Radio Corp. of America after a few years and made outstanding contributions to the science of electronics. At the U. of A. he was a fine influence on students who later made their marks in electronics.

Early receiving sets were large and expensive. Consequently, students and others of all ages converted spare rooms into radio workshops, vying with each other to build the best receivers and reach out to the most distant

stations. One of the greatest problems was getting large amounts of direct current power for the vacuum tubes and speakers. Automotive storage batteries and high voltage dry cells were used with the result that many rugs and hardwood floors were damaged by the acid. Carrying the storage batteries to the garage to be recharged was a major chore and it was not unusual to have the batteries fail in the midst of a favorite program. Therefore the development of the home battery charger was a great improvement. This was followed by the development of the self-contained power supply that permitted the receivers to be plugged directly into the home power system, eliminating the batteries. Smaller and less expensive equipment followed very quickly under the stiff competition between manufacturers.

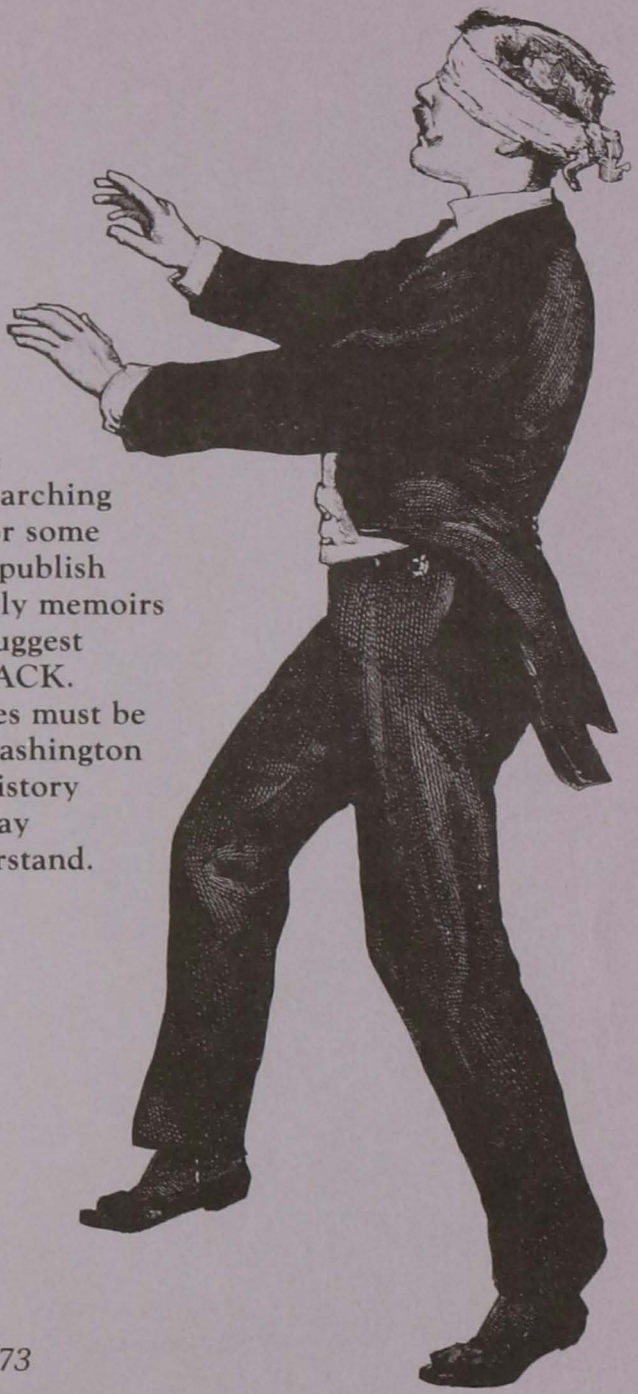
These and similar experiences as sketched here were repeated thousands of times as the world, led by the United States, entered the electronic age. The business boom from the radio and electric refrigerators is credited by many with leading the world out of the great depression. Similar predictions are being made for the boom in home computers and microprocessors in business to help prosperity today.

FAYETTEVILLE'S WAGON YARD

By Dorothy Ware Wilson

From the 13 August 1908 Fayetteville Weekly newspaper: "No other town in this part of the state has provided for the convenience and accommodation of the farms when they come to town, as has Fayetteville. A large yard for their horses and wagons, provided with plenty of good water for their stock, and a man paid by the city to look after their wants, all free of charge during the day, is the kind of accommodation the farmers get when they come to Fayetteville. If they wish to stay all night they are furnished with the same accommodations, and in addition, they can have a nice place to sleep, stove and wood for cooking, for the nominal cost of 10¢. This entails a considerable expense to the town, but it will be well spent. Besides, it is a duty to prepare accommodations for those who come to the county seat on legal business, or to trade."

When one considers how long it took to make an infrequent trip to Fayetteville, with a wagon and team of horses, from outlying Washington County areas like Evansville, Canehill, Cincinnati, Winslow, Durham, Spring Valley, etc., it is easy to understand what a benefit and service it was to be able to stay overnight to tend to all business and shopping, before beginning the slow trip back home over unpaved roads. My father, Walker "Jack" Ware, remembered these occasional trips with his father, Harry E. Ware, from their Madison County farm, as quite an adventure, especially close to Christmas time! The wagon yard was about a block from the county courhouse, if my memory serves me correctly.



If you are
blindly searching
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tied to Washington
County history
in someway
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